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King: Peace treaty follows resolution of common agenda issues

Jordan hopes for progress on other tracks leading to comprehensive Mideast peace

PARIS (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday said that a Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty could be signed soon following the completion of negotiations on all important issues contained in the common agenda.

Speaking to reporters in Paris after meeting at the Elysee Palace with French President Francois Mitterrand, King Hussein said that when the Jordanian and Israeli teams end all the negotiations there will be a peace treaty crowning the process.

"We hope that there will also be progress along the other tracks so that the aspired comprehensive peace can be attained," the King said.

"As for Jordan, we are involved in a negotiating process that promises well in view of the good atmosphere — but there is a lot of issues that are still to be addressed before we arrive at the signing of a peace treaty," the King said.

"The methods followed on the other tracks entailed first signing a document, then the negotiations took place, but we choose to start with the negotiations first to reach final solutions before attaining a peace treaty," King Hussein added.

Turkish businessmen sign Iraq deal

NICOSIA (AFP) — Turkish businessmen have signed a protocol to cooperate with Iraq in trade, industry, transport and communication, the official Iraqi News Agency INA reported Wednesday. The business representative of Turkey's chamber of commerce and industry inked the deal with Iraq industry ministry undersecretary Abdul Kader Abdul Rahman, said INA, monitored in Nicosia. The protocol also provides for the creation of a joint chamber of commerce. The 60-strong delegation left Iraq on Tuesday after a four-day visit, pledging to work for an end to the U.N. embargo on Baghdad that has been in force since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August 1990. INA reported.

Germany opens mission in autonomy area

JERICHO, West Bank (AP) — Germany on Wednesday opened a representative office in Jericho, the first country to set up a mission in the Palestinian autonomy areas. The office will mainly oversee the spending of German aid to the Palestinians, some \$200 million through 1996, said Theodor Wallau, director-general of the German foreign ministry. "This is neither an embassy nor a consulate," said Mr. Wallau, referring to the clause in the Israeli-Palestinian autonomy accord under which Israel remains in control of Palestinian foreign policy. Saeb Erakat, a minister in the Palestinian self-rule government, said he hoped the opening of the mission would eventually lead to higher-level representation. "As Palestinians, we have taken very few steps on a very long road," Mr. Erakat told about 200 guests attending the opening ceremony. "The inauguration of the German mission is one of such steps. I hope the day will come when we will be inaugurating a Germany embassy in the Palestinian capital."

On whether his talks with the French president covered the lifting of the UN embargo on Iraq, the King said: "We discussed a wide range of topics. I consider President Mitterrand an old friend whom I deeply respect as a brother who proved his stand in the difficult circumstances which Jordan had faced in the past."

"I sincerely hope that the sufferings of the Iraqi people will end soon and hope to see Iraq serving as part of the world community and part of the peace in the Middle East region."

On French economic aid to

(Continued on page 12)

France cancels \$4.6m of debt

PARIS (AFP) — France has decided to cancel 25 million francs (\$4.6 million) of Jordan's debt by converting it into vocational training programmes, Economics Minister Edmond Alphandery announced Wednesday.

At the end of a luncheon for King Hussein hosted by Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, Mr. Alphandery said that he would also brief the King on the draft Franco-Jordanian financial protocol for next year, bearing on an amount "on the order of 80 million francs."

In addition, he said he would propose having the French Treasury take part in financing cooperation agreements between French and Jordanian companies. "Here too, we will provide an interesting contribution," he said.

Mr. Alphandery, who held a working meeting with King Hussein Wednesday afternoon, commented that "We're going to take a very exceptional effort to reflect Jordan's role in the peace process and also to take account of the observance of Jordan's commitments to the Club of Paris."

French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe, who also attended the luncheon, noted that France "had made a very great effort on rescheduling" Jordan's foreign debt last June within the Club of Paris. "France played a considerable role in the total debt forgiveness, accounting for 22 per cent," he said.

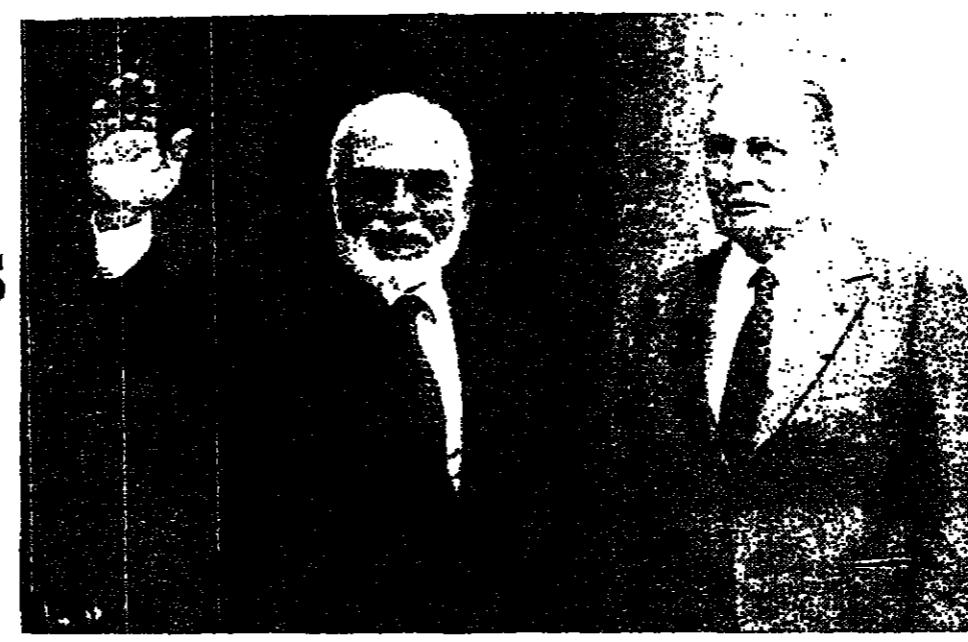
Mr. Juppe added that France had been "highly satisfied with the recent Israeli-Jordanian declaration." He said "It is an important step along the road to peace, and we welcome it."

Rabin threatens halt to authority transfer

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel will halt any further transfers of power in the West Bank if the Palestinian authority does not move against violence by Islamic extremists, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Wednesday.

Security considerations will be the dominant factor in deciding the timing," Mr. Rabin said. The two sides have yet to agree on a timetable for the agreement signed this week to transfer health, education, social services and taxation in the West Bank to the self-rule government.

(Continued on page 12)



His Majesty King Hussein waves as he is flanked by French President Francois Mitterrand upon his arrival at the Elysee Palace Wednesday (AFP photo)

IRA declares 'complete' ceasefire

BELFAST (Agencies) — The outlawed Irish Republican Army (IRA) Wednesday announced a "complete cessation" of violence in Northern Ireland, beginning midnight, paving the way for a possible end to 25 years of sectarian bloodshed.

The historic ceasefire, announced in a statement released here, was unambiguous, unconditional and open-ended, observers said.

British Prime Minister John Major said in a statement he was "greatly encouraged" by the IRA declaration. "But we need to be clear that this is indeed intended to be a permanent renunciation of violence, that is to say, for good," Mr. Major said.

Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds called the announcement "unequivocal," saying "we are on the brink of a new beginning ... Ireland is entering a new era."

The IRA statement said "there will be a complete cessation of military operations ... all our units have been instructed accordingly."

"We are ... entering into a new situation in a spirit of determination and confidence that the injustices which created this conflict will be removed," said the IRA statement.

The Northern Ireland conflict has claimed 3,167 lives and left some 36,500 injured in a quarter century of sectarian killings.

The ceasefire announcement, which had been expected for 48 hours, would appear to satisfy the demands of last December's Anglo-Irish declaration which offered the IRA's political wing Sinn Fein a place in peace talks once the outlawed IRA permanently renounced violence.

The IRA would have to hand over their weapons, he said, adding, "How are they going to justify retaining the weapons of war if they have renounced violence."

President Clinton spoke by telephone Wednesday with Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds and British Prime Minister John Major soon after the Irish Republican Army declared a ceasefire, the White House said.

Mr. Clinton made the calls from Martha's Vineyard where he is vacationing, apparently from a sports utility vehicle in his motorcade.

The announcement was made by Mr. Ghzawi during a meeting chaired by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma and attended by the Jordanian delegation members and a number of officials concerned with population issues in the private and public sectors.

Addressing the meeting, held at the Queen Alia Fund for Social Development, Princess Basma said that Jordan deals with all population issues in a manner that conforms to the Islamic faith, Islamic teachings, traditions and Jordanian values.

The Jordanian delegation to the conference, she said, would focus attention on Jordanian efforts to pursue development and protect the

family and the environment.

ing the agenda for the talks in Washington on Sept. 14 last year, saying Israel "insisted on violating the common agenda."

He said Israel wanted to negotiate boundaries as part of a peace treaty though the agenda stipulated the boundary issue was among the items which once resolved would culminate in a peace treaty.

To get the talks moving, he said, Jordan proposed that the two countries sign agreements over issues that they succeed in resolving after Israel rejected an earlier proposal that would consider the resolving of the boundary issue "a constructive step towards the cultivation of a peace treaty."

The prime minister said that "each party should present a convincing ledger to its people in order to show them that peace will leave them better off."

Dr. Majali, in a lecture tour in the United States, told the Los Angeles council that Jordan is seeking a peace which future generations would accept and protect.

"Our ceaseless quest for peace does not derive its strength from purely philosophical tendencies," he said, adding that "our story in Jordan has been a continuous strife to walk the critical line that separates survival and decent living, between cold war and regional antagonism, and between war and peace."

The prime minister noted that King Hussein's visit to Washington in July signalled the entrance of the Jordanian-Israeli track into a new era, free of fear and myth. (For full text of the speech, see page 7).

Majali: Jordan seeks compatible peace

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali has said that democracy, comprehensive security and regional cooperation based on compatibility of living standards for all peoples of the area are the pillars of peace which Jordan is seeking.

"Lasting peace is a product of the grassroots and they should fully identify with its gains and pains," Dr. Majali said in a speech he delivered Tuesday at the Los Angeles World Affairs Council.

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Jordan to attend Cairo conference

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Wednesday officially announced that it will participate in the U.N. World Population Conference to be held in Cairo between Sept. 5 and 13. An official delegation led by Labour Minister Khaled Ghzawi will represent Jordan at the meeting.

The announcement was made by Mr. Ghzawi during a meeting chaired by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma and attended by the Jordanian delegation members and a number of officials concerned with population issues in the private and public sectors.

The first aspect, he noted, deals with Jordan's political concern at the private and the public sector levels in all activities related to population. The second covers the principles in which Jordan believes.

According to the minister the third aspect of the Jordanian paper reflects the Kingdom's commitment to ensuring the provision of health, education, social, economic and other services to the public.

The Jordanian delegation to the conference, she said, would focus attention on Jordanian efforts to pursue development and protect the

family and the environment.

Mr. Ghzawi reviewed the Jordanian working paper to be submitted to the conference reaffirming that its contents would constitute the terms of reference for the Jordanian delegation as it reflects the official Jordanian population-related policies.

The working paper, he said, addresses three aspects related to comprehensive development of population activities.

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Was Carlos ever in Amman?

By Nermene Murad

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Did the famous Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, better known in the West as "Carlos the Jackal," ever live in Amman during his years of sojourn in the Middle East?

Government and security officials would not be drawn into answering this question, but according to eyewitnesses, "Carlos" was regularly seen in Amman during a certain period between 1991 and 1992, although one of them knew who he actually was at the time.

The Jordanian officials would neither confirm nor deny that "Carlos" was ever in Amman, saying only that those witnesses who "saw" him might have in fact seen "look alike."

But eyewitnesses appear sure that they positively identified the picture that was published following "Carlos' arrest in Sudan as that of the man they had known and talked to around town.

"It is him, I have no doubt in my mind," says a 44-year-old businessman,

after identifying the picture of "Carlos" as that of a middle-aged man who often sat at a corner in one of Amman's restaurants.

The man went by the name of Mourad Aziz, the same name that international reports claimed was his while in Amman, according to Mr. K. and other sources.

"Mr. Aziz" who at times said he was an "Arab diplomat" and at other times "university professor" or simply a "wandering intellectual" did "not look like a murderer or terrorist to me," Mr. K. says. "He was so sophisticated and charming that it was hard to imagine him was a ruthless man."

Hard information about what "Carlos" did in Amman, and for how long he stayed here, was difficult to obtain, although those who know "Aziz" rather well believed he lived in an apartment in the hilly Rabia area, between Shmeisani and Jabal Amman.

One of the acquaintances could remember the name of the wife or daughter especially that she suddenly stopped showing up at the restaurant and "Abu Elias" started frequenting the place with other young women who, he claimed, were his "cousins."

Eventually, however, his "cousins" dwindled to just one who apparently stayed with him for the rest of the time in Amman. This friend, later identified by the Lebanese Al Hawadeth magazine as his wife, was called "Lana."

A French newspaper on Tuesday published what it said was an interview with Carlos, in which he said that he was "primarily a family man."

"I do not understand, my character is simple, I am above all a family man," Carlos was quoted as saying. "My wife and daughter live in the most normal fashion in a house just next door to my mother."

Carlos, according to this "interview" was apparently unhappy with reports that he was an "alcoholic and a womaniser."

"Why are they trying to pass me off as an alcoholic? All this is false, I have never been a drinker," the report quoted him as saying.

The "acquaintances" in

"A m m a r e m e m b e r"

"Murad Aziz" as someone

"who appreciated good

food, good wine and the good life," as one of them put it.

But none of them remembered him as a heavy drinker or someone who behaved strangely towards people.

"He was a very classy man," one eyewitness said.

"He used to greet women by kissing their hands and always behaved like he was a man of the world."

He often approached

people during dinner at the

Jabal Amman restaurant

and asked them whether

they liked what they

ordered and whether they

recommend that he order

the same thing.

On the other hand, at

least two people remember

him frequenting a four-star

hotel's fitness centre or

its swimming pool.

"I remember him as a

flamboyant 40-plus man

who was always accompa-

nied by a petite brunett-

Lebanon joins list of nations boycotting Cairo conference

BEIRUT, Lebanon (Agencies) — Prime Minister Rafik Hariri has said Lebanon would not participate in next week's U.N. Population Conference in Egypt, the third Arab country to snub the meeting.

"The Council of Ministers has decided not to participate in this conference," Mr. Hariri told reporters after a cabinet meeting Tuesday night.

He did not give a reason for the decision. But the U.N. International Conference on Population and Development, which opens Monday in Cairo, has not created any controversy here as it did in other countries.

The meeting is intended to develop policies that would slow the world population — growing at an all-time high of 90 million people a year — and encourage development, especially in Third World countries.

But a 113-page draft "programme of action" has drawn wide criticism from the Vatican and Muslim hardliners because it encouraged birth control. Muslims also have charged that the draft advocates abortion, homosexuality and premarital sex which are forbidden under Islamic Sharia, or law. Sudan and Saudi Arabia

have withdrawn their delegations.

Lebanon's 4 million population is 45 per cent Christian and the rest Muslim. It is one of the most liberal countries in the Middle East.

Mr. Hariri is a billionaire who also holds Saudi citizenship. His government is hoping for Saudi help in its reconstruction drive after the 1975-90 civil war.

The decision to stay away from the conference was seen as a possible attempt to avoid getting embroiled in the controversy and angering the Saudis.

Meanwhile, Kuwait Wednesday said it will stick to its decision to attend the World Population Conference in Cairo despite a Saudi boycott.

A ministry of planning spokesman told the newspaper Kuwait Times that the emir would however "only support solutions to population problems that are compatible with Islamic injunctions and ethics."

Abdul Aziz Ben Baz, the mufti of Saudi Arabia, has appealed to all Islamic countries to follow his country's example and boycott the conference on the grounds that

its draft resolutions violated Islamic teachings.

Sudan like Lebanon, joined the boycott.

On the other hand, Zimbabwe's Catholics backed their bishops on Wednesday in opposing the U.N. Population Conference in Cairo, saying it sought to limit Africa's population and "murder the unborn child."

"Instead of economic justice, we are being given donations with stringent conditions to cut down our numbers and murder the unborn child," Zimbabwe's Catholic Commission of the Laity said.

Two weeks ago the Catholic bishops in the largely Christian country of 10 million blasted the conference opening in Egypt's capital on Monday, saying it condoned casual sexual affairs and free unions.

The commission, grouping most of Zimbabwe's Catholics, noted in a statement that Zimbabwe's government had sent a delegation to the conference and said: "Is our government now penalising families for having more children than what developed countries say is the limit? We need not imitate developed countries and their moral corruption."



ROYAL VISIT: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Wednesday visited a unit of the Fourth Royal Mechanised Division and met its commanders and senior officers. The Regent discussed with the commanders a number of matters related to the division's training and planning. Also discussed was the idea of offering incentives to excelling officers and troops. Later, the Regent lunched with the troops. He was accompanied on the visit by His Royal Highness Prince Rashed Ben Al Hassan.

Lebanon rejects permanent settlement of Palestinian refugees

BEIRUT (R) — The Lebanese government unanimously rejects permanent settlement of Palestinian refugees on its territory and will not grant them civic rights, Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri said.

Mr. Hariri's statement followed a political row over a government minister's proposal to build new housing for 3,000 Palestinian families who have been squatters since Christian militia razed their camps during Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war.

Some Christian cabinet minister and Muslim religious leaders bitterly denounced the proposal as a surreptitious attempt to begin permanent settlement of the Palestinians which is banned under the Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war.

The ministers expressed their opinion on the subject.

A: The document comes out strongly in favour of empowering women — allowing them to participate fully in all the decisions affecting their lives. It calls for legal equality for women and an end to all forms of discrimination.

Q: Who is against the conference and the programme of action?

A: The main opponents are the Vatican and a broad alliance of Islamists as well as some right-wing Christian groups in the United States. Other major religions, such as Judaism, Hinduism and Buddhism, have not taken a position against it.

Q: Who supports it?

A: The document is the result of a consensus at the New York meeting in April at which most U.N. member states were represented. Its most active advocates, however, are secular liberals, women activists and Third World countries other than those with governments dominated by Muslims and Catholics.

Q: Which countries will not attend the Cairo Conference?

A: Sudan, Saudi Arabia and Lebanon have said they will not come. The women prime ministers of Turkey and Bangladesh have cancelled plans to come but their countries will attend.

Q: What does the draft programme say about birth control?

A: The document strongly endorses making contraceptives and contraceptive advice available to those who want them. In no way does it encourage governments to stop couples having children.

Q: What does it say about abortion?

A: Abortion is one of the most controversial issues on the agenda and many of the references remain between brackets — an indication that there is no consensus on them. The emphasis of two proposed texts is that governments should deal "openly and forthrightly" with unsafe abortions and should provide health care for complications from unsafe abortions. One of them says that the main objective should be to reduce the rate of abortion, the other that abortion should not be promoted as a means of family planning.

Q: What does it say about homosexuality?

A: The document says nothing about homosexuality. One section refers to "marriages, other unions and the family," another to "sexually active unmarried individuals."

Q: What does it say about the role of women?

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"We have refused to grant civic rights to Palestinians so that this is not interpreted as support for a bilateral (peace) agreement (with Israel)," he added.

About 400,000 Palestinian refugees live in about a dozen squall camps in Lebanon. Most of them, or their parents, fled in 1948 at the creation of Israel and the first Arab-Israeli war.

Lebanon has consistently refused to grant them citizenship, saying they would upset the fragile Muslim-Christian sectarian balance in a country of 3.2 million. Most of the refugees are Muslims.

Israel agreed in last September's interim autonomy deal with the Palestine Liberation Organisation to discuss the return of refugees who fled as a result of the 1948 war, but not the 1948 refugees.

Druze leader Walid Jumblatt, Lebanon's minister for rehabilitation of displaced people, caused a political storm when he proposed to resettle the Palestinian families in mountains near the southern city of Sidon on the edge of the Druze stronghold in the Shouf Mountains.

Mr. Jumblatt exchanged angry words with Christian ministers who criticised the proposal, bluntly accusing them of sectarianism that could reignite the flames of civil war.

However, Mr. Hariri said the row showed there was a "national consensus" in Lebanon against permanent settlement of the Palestinians.

He said Jumblatt's proposal was purely humanitarian and civil war squatters had to be relocated to allow reconstruction and redevelopment.

However, Mr. Hariri said the cabinet decided to form a four-man committee to study Jumblatt's proposal. Jumblatt was not appointed to the committee and some newspapers hailed the decision as a victory for his opponents.

Only Algerians can cross Moroccan border

RABAT (R) — Four frontier posts on the Algerian-Moroccan border are now closed and only Algerians in Morocco are allowed through, the official Algerian news agency APS reported.

The agency monitored in Rabat said the Algerian decision to close the border on Saturday "is effective at the four frontier posts of Akid Loti, Akif Abbas, Boukoum and Beni Ouanif."

"Only Algerian nationals who are in Morocco can enter Algeria. Other passengers are banned from entering or leaving the national territory," the agency said citing the frontier police.

It said that in the three days after the decision to close the border some 7,500 Algerians and 900 Moroccan residents in Algeria returned to Algeria while 1,600 Moroccans and 200 Algerian residents returned to Morocco.

Diplomats and Moroccan officials said it was not known how many Algerians were currently in Morocco. There

are several thousand residents and an unknown number of refugees who have fled the violence in Algeria.

More than a million visit the country annually as tourists.

Algeria closed the 1,200-km border "temporarily" when Morocco demanded entry visas for visitors of Algerian nationality or origin after the arrest of gunmen, including two of Algerian origin resident in France, suspected of carrying out a series of armed robberies.

Visa formalities between the two states were abolished in 1989 when they joined the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) which unites them to Libya, Mauritania and Tunisia.

Algeria has protested that the Moroccan visa requirement is a violation of the AMU pact but has also instituted entry visas for Moroccans.

It added that residents of Algeria of nationality or origin married to Moroccans resident in the country would not require visas.

Algeria closed its western border in 1976 and expelled more than 30,000 Moroccans. Road, rail and air traffic was

suspended for 13 years after Rabat broke off diplomatic relations with Algiers because it backed Polisario guerrillas fighting for independence of western Sahara, the former Spanish colony claimed by Morocco.

Diplomats said a rupture of diplomatic relations was unlikely this time but they were unwilling to predict how long the border closure would last.

"The Algerian press is hurling contumely and abuse at Morocco, but the Moroccans are playing it cool. It will be decent, sooner or later," a western diplomat said.

The Moroccan Interior Ministry said on Tuesday visa restrictions for Algerians had been relaxed. It said women of Algerian nationality or origin married to Moroccans resident in the country would not require visas.

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Home News

DAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1994

Medical news open

the conference. Two discussions will be held around the recent developments in Hepatitis C, treatment and an update on treatment of bleeding secondary to portal hypertension. Events will also include two laparoscopic workshops conducted at King Hussein Medical Centre and a workshop on management of the diseases of common bile duct and the removal of gallstones from the common bile duct through endoscopy at Al-Bashir Hospital.

Side activities of the conference will take place at the Plaza Hotel, where experts from Germany are to meet with the Jordanian Orthopaedic Society on Thursday and the Gynaecology and Obstetrics Society on Friday for information discussions on the subjects.

The fact that this conference is held in Jordan supports the argument that the country is one of the most advanced in the Arab region specifically in medical human resources and the use of high tech equipment in medicine," said Dr. Abu Hassan, who is also a GI consultant.

In his opening speech he added that importing modern equipment without having the capable individuals to man them is useless. That's why we have to upgrade the capabilities and skills of our medical staff members in order to enter the 21st century in a way that maintains our anticipated scientific status.

Wednesday's programme included opening speeches by various members of the organizing committee and Health Minister Arif Batayneh deputising for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. This was followed by the opening of the medical exhibition, a memorial lecture on exegesis in medical language and its common origin and the presentation of specialised papers of "great medical value," as many attendees would agree.

Dr. Walid Fataier, president of the Jordan Association of Surgeons and president of the conference said his opening speech that Jordan is proud of the scientific progress achieved in different medical sciences, and that the medical care staff members in Jordan feel that they have a commitment towards the people of Jordan to achieve excellence in medical care so that ideal standards will be reached in a few years time.

Political parties oppose students' fees hike

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Three Jordanian political parties yesterday criticised the government for its August 21 decision to raise by 60 per cent students' fees to their schools and demanded that the sums collected be returned to the pupils.

"The fee increase is very heavy on Jordanian citizens and heads of families, and our parties demand the cancellation of the government decision and the return of the sums already collected to the students," said the statement.

The statement, which was signed by the Islamic Action Front Party (IAF), the National Action Front party (NAF) and the Jordan Socialist Arab Party, said the government should retain the same fee rate of previous years.

AMO allows import of 5,000 tonnes of potatoes

AMMAN (Petra) — Because

of the shortage of potatoes on the local markets, the Agricultural Marketing Organisation (AMO) is allowing importers to purchase 5,000 tonnes of the starchy plant tuber from different countries.

According to a decision by the organisation's board Wednesday, the Jordan Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company (JAMPCO) will import 2,000 tonnes the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) 1,000 tonnes and private sector merchants 2,000 tonnes.

Commenting on the coun-

try's import and export policy, Minister of Agriculture Mansour Ben Tariff said that imports of all kinds of fruits have been banned since the beginning of July in view of the abundant fruit crop this year.

He said his ministry is conducting a study on importing agricultural inputs and would arrange for bulk imports which would be sold at reasonable prices to the local farmers in cooperation with the Union of Importers of Agricultural Products.

At the same time, he said, the Ministry of Agriculture is finalising work on a document covering the country's agricultural policy and designed to enable the Kingdom to become self-sufficient in food production.

Young man found hanged

By Rana Husseini

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A 25-year-old man Tuesday was found hanged on the roof of his house in Al Akarreh suburb in Jabal Hashmi Shamali in Amman, police reports said.

Hassan M.S. was discovered by his father who went to his home for him late Tuesday night, reports said.

Hassan's father, Mohammad, told police that he went to the roof of their home to check on his son and found him hanging from a rope which was suspected from a metal bar used to hang laundry.

In his testimony to police, Hassan's father, said his son had a short temper and was unable to find a job and so decided to take his own life.

A close neighbour told the Jordan Times Wednesday

that Hassan had just returned to Jordan after spending one month in another Arab country.

She said she met him once before the incident and said that he looked depressed.

"It seemed to me that he was not happy and was mistreated where he was staying before coming to Jordan," the neighbour said without elaborating.

According to the report, the argument, which was over results of a previous municipal election, became heated and turned into a fist fight with bystanders getting involved, the report said.

Police reports estimate that at least 48 people participated in the fight.

CDD reports said that the injured suffering from bruises and cuts were taken to Madaa Hospital and were listed in fair to good conditions.

Police said both tribes filed complaints against each other. They said they are investigating the incident.



WHAT'S GOING ON

MARCH

* March (marking His Majesty King Hussein's 42nd accession anniversary to the Throne) starting from the Orthodox Club in Abdoun on Friday at 10:00 a.m. and ending at the Amman Marriott Hotel.

THE FIRST JORDANIAN TWINS FESTIVAL

* Festival of Jordanian twins at the Amman International Auto Exhibition, Airport Road on Friday at 5:00 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

* Exhibition of Jordanian-made commodities at the International Exhibition Centre, University Road (Tel. 06-51113).

* "The Diness Exhibit" — beginnings of photography in Jerusalem and the Holy Land at the American Center exhibition hall, Abdoun.

* Exhibition of paintings entitled "Fantazia II" (depicting Islamic style) by Iraqi artist Widad Orfali at Orfali Art Gallery, Umm Utheima (Tel. 826932).

* Exhibition of abstract art by Khalif Khalif and Nizar Al-Saadi at the Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art (Tel. 06-52791).

* Exhibition of paintings by Fahmi Qaysi at Ab'dad Art Gallery (Tel. 819861).

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATURE

The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature is the only non-governmental organisation in Jordan responsible for protecting wildlife. It has established an international reputation for its conservation work. In connection with its rapidly expanding work load, the society is seeking suitably experienced and/or qualified person to fill the following vacancy.

Head of public awareness

A well motivated, enthusiastic person is required to manage and develop the work of the recently formed Public Awareness Section. This section promotes the vital work of the RSCN across all sections of Jordanian society. Much of the work is concerned with developing educational programmes for schools. The successful candidate will have qualifications and/or experience in education or interpretation and in the management of people. Good communication skills and a commitment to wildlife conservation are essential. The applicant must also speak and write fluently in English.

For more information contact administration office at: RSCN Q.H. 2nd floor of civil service Consumption/Jubeha P.O.Box 6345 Closing date for applications Sept. 8. Candidate should bring C.V. and original documents

Amman prepares for municipal elections

By Ramadan Rawashdeh

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Amman Municipality is preparing for elections for a new municipal council by the middle of 1995.

Speaking one day after a Council of Ministers decision to appoint a new committee to manage the municipality's affairs, Amman Mayor Mamoudah Abbadi said the elections will be held in implementation of a new municipalities law endorsed by Parliament in July.

The mayor, who was appointed head of the committee, said that his team includes specialists in municipal affairs, technocrats with experience in basic services, like health, water and electricity, as well as the director of the Amman Police Department and a number of secretaries general of government ministries, grouping altogether 28 personalities.

The former council grouped 50 members, half of whom were specialists in government offices while the rest was made up of heads of municipal councils

dissolved in 1987 when the Greater Amman Area was formed, including these councils around the capital.

The Council of Ministers had decided to dissolve all serving municipal councils, including those run by government-appointed committees, and set up 191 new committees to run them until next year's municipal elections.

Under the new law, elections for all municipalities in the Kingdom will be held in one day, a departure from the previous system which allowed different councils to hold elections separately.

Preparations for the election of a municipal council, according to Dr. Abbadi, entail working out a mechanism for registering voters and related procedures.

According to Dr. Abbadi, by the middle of next year the Amman residents will also elect half of their municipal council while the government will appoint the other half upon recommendation from the minister of municipal and rural affairs and the environment.

Several municipal councils resigned in protest against the new law and the government dissolved other councils, like that of Zarqa which was dominated by IAF members, drawing fierce protests by Parliament members who

considered the move as undemocratic.

The new law is considered more developed than the previous one despite the criticism levelled against it by certain circles which considered conditions for nomination as unfair.

On the other hand, many circles have voiced apprehension that the Islamists might dominate most of the new councils, bearing in mind the events of Algeria where the Islamists dominated the local councils one year before the general elections were held and whose results later were scrapped and the municipal councils dissolved.

Among the Jordanian municipalities which were dissolved, there was Irbid Municipality where the Islamists faced a defeat in the municipal elections more than two years ago leaving the field to the independents and members with leftist tendency.

The Islamists had dominated the Irbid municipal council for 15 years and later spread their dominance to the municipalities of Zarqa and Ruseifa, two of the largest municipalities in the Kingdom.

In light of past experience, the Islamists proved quite capable of managing election campaigns and achieving successes and the municipal elections of next year could provide them with a new chance to achieve further successes whereas the leftist forces are not expected to meet with success unless they join hands with Islamists, according to observers.

These observers believe that the 1995 elections could provide an important political indicator of the strength of the Islamic forces which were adversely affected by the one-person one-vote system introduced before the last parliamentary elections in November 1993 and in view of the ongoing Jordan-Israeli peace negotiations.

Observers believe that the coming municipal elections will be different from any others before in terms of supervision, election procedures and, perhaps, results.

Jordanian professionals seek link up with global health care network

By Jennifer Hamarneh

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A handful of medical and business professionals, who believe that Jordan is creating a "niche" for itself on the world map of quality health care, is planning to attend a conference on "Global Health Care: An Emerging reality" in Geneva.

The three-day international symposium is designed to examine models for the worldwide integration of health care, which, according to conference co-chair Omar Lattouf, is the wave of future health care management and delivery.

"Jordan's participation is important because by aligning itself with this global network, the country could become the regional hub for providing high quality health care as well as exporting medical technology and services," Dr. Lattouf told the Jordan Times.

The conference presentations will be aimed primarily at opinion leading physicians and health care industry strategists, planners, policy makers and executives.

The overall agenda incorporates a multidisciplinary approach to resolving health care issues by bringing together world leaders, representatives of international health care organisations, business administrators, medical managers, economists, marketing experts as well as health care professionals to discuss how to compose a health care action plan for the next decade, Dr. Lattouf said.

The Diness exhibit captures the spirit of mid-nineteenth century Jerusalem and the Holy Land and sheds light on the relations between the different peoples and religions which call Jerusalem home, said the statement.

The exhibit will be put together by the Harvard Semitic Museum in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in cooperation with historian Dror Wahrman and curators Nizra Rosovsky and Father Carney Gavin.

The Diness exhibit will be on display to the public through Oct. 26.

Network (NCN), a U.S.-based multi-institutional alliance of leading cardiovascular institutions.

Dr. Lattouf recently repatriated to Jordan from Atlanta where he was an associate professor of surgery at Emory University and a practising cardio-thoracic surgeon. He is currently in private practice in Amman as a cardiac and thoracic surgeon.

Dr. Lattouf believes Jordan has positioned itself favourably for importing high quality medical services and their reexporting those services to the region. He sees the coming conference as benefiting the Kingdom in its acquisition and eventual sharing of quality care as well as the "economics of high quality care."

For Dr. Lattouf, the next 10 years promise to witness explosive action in health care telecommunications in various countries, including Jordan. Already, His Majesty King Hussein has spearheaded and contributed to the telelink for diagnosis and treatment between the Royal Medical Services and the renowned Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota where the King underwent successful cancer surgery in 1992.

Dr. Lattouf is convinced that national health care telecommunications will become a reality, with the networking of Jordan's hospitals around the country, including the rural areas. "I believe that we will become more efficient in utilising telecommunications that are available but yet to be deployed in medicine."

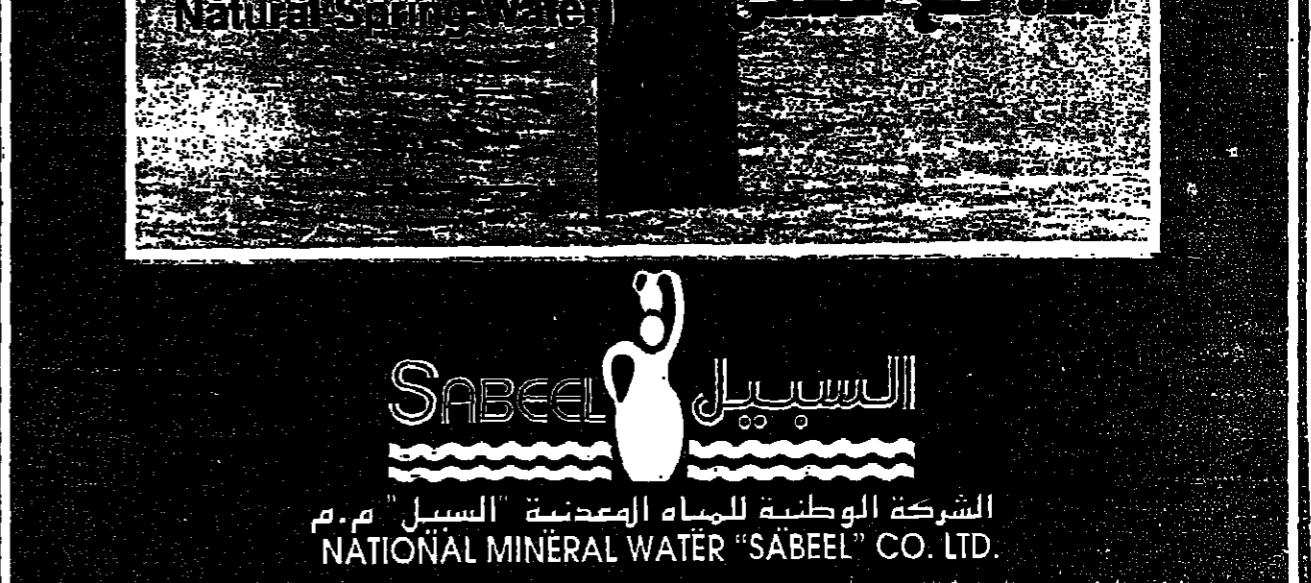
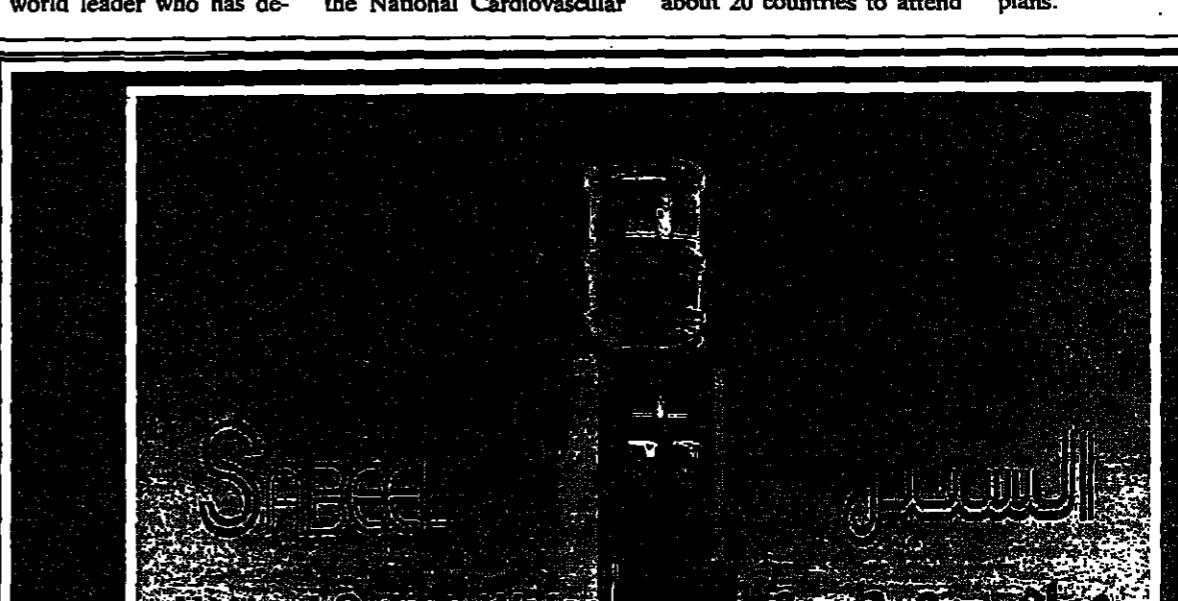
The participants at the symposium will come from about 20 countries to attend

discussion sessions on: managing change (the new health management imperative); confronting reality (the impact of global economics); redefining opportunities (regional, national and international markets); reinventing infrastructure (the future of telecommunications, telemedicine, and multimedia information management); and reengineering relationships (progress and prospects of global synergy).

The conference organisers foresee numerous benefits to the attendees, including: understanding the role of global economics in worldwide health care delivery; recognising how the trends of an emerging global health management marketplace may affect local health care strategies; and examining the global implications of technologies that enable remote learning, facilitate international resource sharing and significantly streamline the access and management of clinical and clerical information.

Of the numerous papers slated to be presented at the symposium, those with a Middle East focus include: "Arab-Israeli Initiative," (presents a case study of cooperative Arab-Israeli cardiovascular care effort); "Middle East Health Care Economics," (presents the Middle East perspective on the economic implications of health care); and "Telemedicine in Saudi Arabia."

Dr. Lattouf, who will chair the conference with Professor Jack Sheth of Emory University, expects to publish a summary of the symposium proceedings and plans.



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India-Pakistan ties flounder again as diplomats expelled

NEW DELHI (AFP) — Relations between India and Pakistan were floundering Wednesday after the mutual expulsion of two diplomats and New Delhi's rejection of an Islamabad offer on nuclear weapons.

Analysts here expressed fears over the fresh slide in mutual ties, a day after Pakistan expelled an Indian diplomat, triggering the expulsion of a Pakistani diplomat from India.

Islamabad Tuesday declared consul J.J. Singh at the Indian Consulate General in Karachi, Pakistan's commercial capital, persona non grata and asked him to quit the country within a week.

New Delhi struck back, reviving First Secretary Javaid Ahmad at the Pakistan High Commission here, reviving the tit-for-tat expulsions last month of four members of each other's diplomatic missions on charges of spying.

Indian officials were not available for comment on the expulsions. But diplomats warned that it would further strain bilateral relations between India and Pakistan, who have fought three wars since 1947.

An Indian expert on South Asia agreed.

"This is going to deteriorate the relationship further," said Abba Dixit of the Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis. "It will certainly hamper their diplomatic ties."

"The repeated expulsion of each other's diplomats is sending a very wrong signal to the international commun-

ity," said Mr. Dixit.

"There is a tremendous amount of hostility and suspicion between the two countries," she added.

Also Tuesday, India rejected a Pakistani offer for a joint declaration renouncing nuclear weapons, calling it "an obvious bid to cover up (Pakistan's) discomfiture and embarrassment" over its nuclear programme.

An Indian Foreign Ministry spokesman said the Islamabad proposal was the result of last week's admission by former Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif that his country had a nuclear bomb and would not hesitate to use it.

The spokesman said the Pakistani offer was not acceptable since Islamabad had turned down Indian proposals in January for confidence-building measures in the nuclear field.

Mr. Sharif's statement has caused alarm in India, which exploded a nuclear device in 1974 but says it does not have a bomb. Pakistan has denied it.

Mr. Sharif's statement and maintains that it does not possess nuclear weapons.

India's main opposition party said Wednesday that India-Pakistan relations would continue to take further knocks unless the two countries solved their dispute over Kashmir.

"There is increasing tension between India and Pakistan," said spokesman K.L. Sharma of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP, or Indian People's Party).

"India is broadcasting propaganda aimed at Sindh

mir is the bone of contention and the only concrete step to improve relations would be to sort out this issue in a negotiated way," Mr. Sharma added.

Two of the wars between India and Pakistan have been fought over Kashmir, a picturesque province held by the two neighbours. A bloody Muslim separatist campaign in Indian-held Kashmir has claimed more than 10,000 lives since 1989.

India accuses Pakistan of arming the Muslim guerrillas in Kashmir. Islamabad denies the accusation.

Pakistan Wednesday accused India of promoting terrorism to try to destabilise its smaller neighbours in South Asia.

"If there is a terrorist state in South Asia it is none other than India," said Munir Akram, a Foreign Ministry spokesman.

Mr. Akram, without providing evidence, accused India of fomenting anti-government violence in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

India is promoting terrorism in the region, in Pakistan it is in the (southern) province of Sindh," he said.

Hundreds of people have been killed in ethnically and politically motivated violence in the province over the past few years.

The main combatants have been militant Muslim immigrants to Pakistan at the time of independence in 1947 and secessionists demanding an independent Sindh.

"India is broadcasting propaganda aimed at Sindh

promoting its secession from Pakistan," said Mr. Akram.

Meanwhile, India made no concessions to international mediators who, in a groundbreaking meeting with New Delhi, sought to win its support for curbs on the spread of missile technology, Indian newspapers said Wednesday.

The newspapers said senior officials from the United States, Britain, Switzerland and Australia made no headway at a meeting Tuesday in persuading India to impose voluntary curbs on the proliferation of missile technology.

The officials were seeking New Delhi's eventual support for the missile technology control regime (MTCR), which tries to prevent the spread of technology capable of generating nuclear arms or delivery vehicles for nuclear warheads.

Tuesday's meeting in New Delhi was the first time India had held talks with MTCR officials. The Foreign Ministry called the session useful and comprehensive, and said the government would consider future talks with the MTCR.

India has long said the voluntary club is discriminatory because it would allow Western nations to add to their stockpiles but prevent others from developing missiles.

"There is no change in India's stand of not subscribing to the discriminatory missile technology control regime even after today's comprehensive discussions here between the visiting MTCR team and Indian officials," the Hindustan Times said.



Russian President Boris Yeltsin (right) is greeted by a group of flag waving children on his arrival in Germany from Moscow. Mr. Yeltsin was in Germany to attend the ceremony marking the departure of the last Russian soldiers from here (AFP photo)

Yeltsin and Kohl see history differently as Russian troops leave

BERLIN (AFP) — President Boris Yeltsin, marking the departure Wednesday of the last Russian troops from Germany, glorified the liberating role the Red Army played in Hitler's Germany, but glossed over its part in butressing 40 years of Stalinist dictatorship in the east of the country.

By contrast, in his speech at one of several ceremonies held here, German Chancellor Helmut Kohl put Hitler's and Stalin's crimes on a more equal footing, and said the post-war wrongs Russians inflicted on Germans should not be forgotten.

Mr. Yeltsin said that the victorious Russian troops who entered Berlin half a century ago "did not stay on foreign soil in order to enslave and dominate."

He stressed the debt owed today to the sacrifice and heroism of the liberators.

"It was here in Berlin that the root of an unparalleled evil was torn out and the ashes of Hitler's monstrous plans thrown to the winds," Mr. Yeltsin declared at the ceremony in the city's 19th century theatre.

"We have no right to forget that the Nazis razed many towns and whole states to the ground," he said.

"The Russians in soldiers' uniform did not come to Germany to flatten it to the earth, to annihilate the German people or make them the servant of the Russians," Mr. Yeltsin declared.

Mr. Yeltsin said Russia had always made a distinction between ordinary German people and the Nazi clique that came to power.

The Russian leader simply attributed the post-war division of Germany to its war defeat. "The defeat led to the division of the German land," Mr. Yeltsin said, while recognising that its living corpse was carved up with barbed wire and minefields."

He presented the 49-year-long Russian military presence on German soil as "an effort in favour of peace" for which he said thanks were due.

At the time of German reunification in 1990 — which Mr. Yeltsin in his speech hailed wholeheartedly — the number of Russian troops was still some 390,000.

In his speech, the German chancellor thanked Mr. Yeltsin for completing the Russian troop withdrawal ahead of the Sept. 12 deadline agreed in 1990 with the victor.

Russian troops leave Estonia

In a separate development, Russia's military presence in Estonia officially ended Wednesday after more than 50 years, but a deep legacy of bitterness has made it difficult for many people to celebrate.

"Aug. 31 marks the end of a rape," commented Kalle Kulbok, head of the small

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1991

Briton jailed for filming bare-legged girls

DUBAI (R) — A British man has been jailed for six months and ordered deported for illicitly filming under the skirts of girls and women in Dubai supermarkets with a hidden video camera. The newspaper Al-Khalil said Tuesday that the man, named only as Gary, placed a small video camera close to the floor in supermarkets to film under the skirts of unwary females browsing along the shelves. He was caught by chance by two passing policemen and found in possession of six such video films. Some scenes had been enlarged using special equipment he kept at home. An appeals court found him guilty of violating the decency of those women, although none had been identified. It ordered he be deported from the United Arab Emirates on completing his sentence, the paper said. A lower court had earlier dismissed the charges because none of the women had complained.

Women conquer Iran's highest mountain

TEHRAN (AFP) — A group of Iranian women, fully covered in keeping with Islamic tradition, climbed to the top of the country's highest mountain for the first time since the 1979 revolution, a newspaper reported. The group of 16 students from Tehran universities climbed the northeastern flank of the Damavand in northeastern Iran to the peak, 5,671 metres (18,710 feet) above ground, the daily Hamshahr reported.

They include the 10,500 former Soviet soldiers who have settled in the Baltic state after leaving the army, many of them still under 50 years old.

Estonian President Lennart Meri agreed these "pioneers" could apply for permanent residence when he signed the July 26 agreement with Mr. Yeltsin fixing Aug. 31 as the deadline for the last of the Russian troops to leave.

Russia is also insisting on keeping two small border areas which were granted to the newly-formed Estonian Democratic Republic in the 1920 Treaty of Tartu which Tallinn signed with the three-year-old Soviet government in Moscow.

Those areas were annexed by the Soviet Union along with the rest of Estonia and its Baltic neighbours Latvia and Lithuania in 1940 after the pact with Nazi Germany gave Josef Stalin a free hand in the region.

Open-air concerts and a firework display were planned for Wednesday by the presidential palace and the government of Prime Minister Maart Laar, with religious services of thanksgiving on a recent meeting of 290 teachers. The Singapore Teachers' Union (STU) said other problems in schools include stealing, intimacy with the opposite sex, vandalism, gambling and the viewing of pornographic material. The disclosures run in the face of a longstanding government campaign to promote Confucian values among Singaporeans including respect for elders and teachers. Cases of "open defiance and blatant disrespect for teachers are also many negative aspects."

Apart from the continued presence of so many Russians — which is a load particularly on the country's schools — and the loss of territory, there is the cost of cleaning up after the troops.

Experts have estimated at more than \$4 billion the ecological damage caused by the Russian military occupation, including pollution by nuclear residue.

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support grows

WASHINGTON (AP) — A growing number of Americans are supporting the Soviet Union's independence from the Soviet Union, according to a recent poll.

When the U.S. administration's support of the Soviet Union's independence from the Soviet Union was at its peak in 1990, 60 percent of Americans supported it. Now, only 45 percent support it.

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TEHRAN (AFP) — A group of Iranian women, fully covered in keeping with Islamic tradition, climbed to the top of the country's highest mountain for the first time since the 1979 revolution, a newspaper reported. The group of 16 students from Tehran universities, climbed the northeastern flank of Damavand in northeastern Iran to the peak, 5,671 metres (18,710 feet) above ground, the daily *Hamshahri* said. It was an unprecedented climb for women who had been increasingly excluded from sports since the revolution because of religious restrictions. But mountain climbing has become considered a practical sport for women, because they can take part in a covered meeting Islamic.

Singapore schools face rising discipline

SINGAPORE (AFP) — Singapore's promotion of Asian values may be having little impact in its schools, where teachers say racism, gangsterism and in some cases drug and alcohol abuse are on the rise. Reporting on a recent meeting of 29 teachers, the Singapore Teachers' Union (STU) said other problems in schools include stealing, intimacy with the opposite sex, vandalism, gambling and the viewing of pornographic material. The disclosures run in the face of a long-standing government campaign to promote Confucianist values among Singaporeans including respect for elders and teachers. One of "open defiance and blatant disrespect for teachers as increasing in our schools," union president Lawrence Sia wrote in *The Mentor*, the STU's newsletter, received Tuesday. In a National Day address to Singaporeans last week, Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong said his government would defend and strengthen family values. Schools can teach ethics at confucianism, "but school teachers cannot replace parents and grandparents as the principal models for their children," he said. Mr. Sia said that while the STU was addressing the problem, the government could also help. "The STU is of the view that the Education Ministry must also do more to support the teachers to deal with this problem," Mr. Sia said. The teachers cited peer influence, poor parental supervision and unfavourable home backgrounds as common causes for misbehaviour in schools, the newsletter said.

Chinese taxi drivers offer back-seat company

BEIJING (R) — Chinese taxi drivers, desperate for custom, are offering comfort back-seat female company as part of the service, the *Beijing Evening News* said. It is now common for drivers in cities across China to offer this service and customers refuse to get in unless such a lady is present, it said.



A group of Rwandan refugees wait for authorisation from Zairean authorities to cross the border at the Goma border post. Over 3,000 Rwandan refugees are still attempting to flee into Zaire despite a new planned meeting between

Rwandan and Zairean government ministers to lead to a full agreement on the voluntary repatriation of refugees (AFP photo)

Bosnian premier blasts Britain, France

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — Bosnian Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic criticised Britain and France Wednesday for threatening to withdraw their peacekeepers from Bosnia if the U.N. arms embargo against government troops is lifted.

"These threats come from the two countries that have insisted on keeping the arms embargo on Bosnia, the two governments that gave a tremendous advantage to our enemy," he told Reuters.

"I would understand and respect total neutrality, but once you make a decision to deprive a people and a country of the right to defend themselves in a cataclysmic situation you cannot just walk away because your troops are in danger."

Bosnia's Muslim and Croat-backed government has been battling Bosnian Serbs for 28 months. U.S. President Bill Clinton intends to ask the U.N. Security Council to lift the arms embargo against Bosnia if Serbs do not accept an international peace plan by Oct. 15.

Bosnian Serbs voted last weekend in a referendum to back their leaders in rejecting the plan, which would divide Bosnia roughly in half between the Serbs and their Muslim and Croat foes.

Britain and France, who contribute the majority of U.N. peacekeepers in Bosnia, support the lifting of the embargo as a last resort only. They say the move would escalate what has been a low-intensity conflict into an all-out war, forcing them to withdraw their lightly-armed, widely dispersed troops.

French Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev called Monday for a further meeting of the five-power group at ministerial level to discuss how to

respond to Belgrade's embargo on its former Bosnian Serb allies.

Mr. Kozyrev criticised the West's lukewarm reaction to the Yugoslav move.

So far Russia's partners in the group — Britain, France, Germany and the United States — have insisted that Belgrade allow international observers along the Serbia-Bosnia border to make sure its break is made concrete.

Rebel Serbs have enjoyed a huge advantage in tanks and heavy artillery over government troops throughout the war and, until recently, regular resupply from neighbouring Serbia.

The Security Council has repeatedly identified the Serb side as the aggressor in Bosnia, and it locked this advantage in heavy arms in place with an arms embargo that hobbled government troops only.

Mediators shrug off Bosnian Serb's moral complaints, saying the embargo is defensible because it has prevented a wider Balkan or European war by containing the conflict.

France expressed support Wednesday for a Russian proposal to hold a new meeting of the international contact group on Bosnia to consider lifting sanctions against Belgrade.

French Foreign Minister Richard Dufour has suggested a meeting next week of senior officials, "with the idea of an eventual meeting at ministerial level."

Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev called Monday for a further meeting of the five-power group at ministerial level to discuss how to

reject the peace plan which reserved 49 per cent of Bosnia for Bosnian Serbs and 51 per cent for the Muslims and Croats.

Russia, long-time ally of Belgrade, described the boycott decision by Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic as "courageous" and criticised the West's "bureaucratic inertia" in facing new realities.

Mr. Dufour said next week's meeting should "evaluate" the situation, especially after Mr. Kozyrev's recent two-day visit to former Yugoslavia, stressing that the contact group's "continued coherence and credibility" was a priority.

"At every stage of the political and diplomatic process, (the group's members) have compared their analyses and adopted a common position. I believe the member-countries of the group all support the maintenance of this cohesion," he said.

He could not say if sanctions could be lifted, recalling only that the contact group had always taken a "double approach" — to punish those who reject the plan and encourage those who support it.

Belgrade, faced with increased sanctions against the rump Yugoslav state of Serbia and Montenegro, severed ties with the Bosnian Serbs in August over their rejection of the contact group's latest peace plan for Bosnia.

The rejection was sealed by a referendum last weekend, with preliminary results showing that at least 96 per cent of Bosnian Serbs

in a newspaper interview Tuesday, French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur repeated a threat to withdraw French peacekeepers from Bosnia if the arms embargo were lifted but said Belgrade's cutting of ties with the Bosnian Serbs "could be a turning point in the conflict."

In a separate decision, the French cabinet Wednesday approved a bill adapting French law to allow cooperation with an international tribunal in The Hague, set up to judge possible war crimes in former Yugoslavia

Support grows for Haiti invasion

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Support is growing for a U.S.-led invasion of Haiti if Haiti's military refuses to bow to international pressure and step down, with Caribbean countries and Britain pledging their backing.

U.S. officials, seeking to keep the pressure on the military junta in Haiti, said that training for a possible military intervention would begin immediately in Puerto Rico.

"The time for action has arrived," U.S. Deputy Defense Secretary John Deutch told Caribbean foreign ministers in Kingston. "There should be no question in anybody's mind that a multinational force is going to Haiti."

Jamaica, Barbados, Belize, and Trinidad and Tobago

capped the two-day meeting of the 13-member Caribbean Community (Caricom) by pledging to contribute 266 troops in a non-combat role to support U.S. forces, said Barbados Prime Minister Erskine Sandiford.

Two other member states — Guyana and the Bahamas — said they were considering contributing forces to a Caricom contingent. Antigua was first reported to be ready to send troops, but was later taken off the list.

If Guyana and the Bahamas join the mission, Mr. Sandiford said, it would mean all Caricom members with military capabilities will be involved in the mission.

At a news conference with Mr. Sandiford, U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott declined to predict how

long the United States would wait for Haiti's junta to leave power of their own accord.

But he said, "there is a sense of increased urgency" following the refusal of Haitian military leaders to meet with U.N. envoy Rolf Knutson and the assassination of a Roman Catholic priest close to exiled Haitian President Jean Bertrand Aristide.

The U.S. delegation later left for the Dominican Republic which shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti to seek more support in closing off the border, the chief entry point for U.N.-prescribed goods into Haiti.

Also Tuesday, the British government said it was prepared to join a U.S.-led multinational invasion of Haiti.

Japan to spend \$1 b on 'war apology' projects

TOKYO (R) — Japan announced Wednesday it was setting up a \$1 billion fund for cultural and vocational projects across Asia over the next decade as a token of apology for victims of Japanese aggression before 1945.

"It is imperative for us Japanese to look squarely to our history with the peoples of neighbouring Asia and elsewhere," Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama said in a statement announcing the plan.

The programme is due to start next year, the 50th anniversary of Japan's World War II surrender.

The announcement also followed remarks by two cabinet ministers earlier this year which triggered protests from both Koreas and China.

Justice Minister Shigeto Nagano claimed the 1947 Nanking massacre was a figment of Chinese wartime propaganda, while Environment Minister Shin Sakurai denied Japan was an aggressor in World War II, both were subsequently forced to quit.

Regarding "comfort women" — the estimated 200,000 women abducted by the Japanese army to serve as

sex slaves in battlefield brothels — Mr. Murayama said the government would help build vocational training centres for women in Asia.

Mr. Murayama's plan to deal with the continued furor over Japan's wartime atrocities follows a series of law suits in recent years by victims and civic groups across Asia seeking damage and government apologies.

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Regarding "comfort women" — the estimated 200,000 women abducted by the Japanese army to serve as

"On the issue of wartime 'comfort women,' which seriously stained the honour and dignity of many women, I would like to take this opportunity once again to express my profound and sincere remorse and apologies," Mr. Murayama said in the statement.

Rwandan refugee talks stall

GOMA, Zaire (R) — Talks between Zaire and Rwanda on the 1.2 million refugees in squall camps in eastern Zaire ran into more problems Wednesday when the Rwandan delegations failed to turn up.

On the other side of the central African country, the United Nations said continued killings were driving 12,000 refugees a week into Tanzania and five to eight bodies a day were being fished out of the Kagera River.

A U.N. official said the killings appeared to be the work of Hutu militiamen turned bandits and not of Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) soldiers seeking revenge on Hutus for slaughtering Tutsi tribesmen.

After two days of postponements to the talks in the eastern Zairean town of Goma, Zairean delegates waited for two hours at the Community of the Great Lakes building be-

fore dispersing. "They may meet tomorrow," one said.

Delegates said the two delegations of technical experts were having trouble agreeing on a working document and the process was also being held up by protocol over reception of the Rwandan ministers.

Justice Minister Kamanda Wa Kamanda and Defence Minister Admiral Mavua, representing the Zairean government, must first receive Rwanda's Interior Minister Seth Sendashonga and two other cabinet ministers, whose names have not been released, representing the Tutsi-dominated government in Kigali.

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fore dispersing. "They may meet tomorrow," one said.

The refugees fled to Zaire after RPF forces routed the former Hutu government and allied militiamen who conducted massacres of Tutsis and moderate Hutus following the assassination of Hutu President Juvenal Habyarimana on April 6. The U.N. has estimated more than a million people were killed.

Security is already a problem and shelter is likely to become one when rain starts to wash away the rudimentary shelters housing many of the refugees.

There are regular reports of lynchings in the camps, the latest Tuesday in Honga, northwest of Bukavu, where refugees stoned to death a man they accused of being a Tutsi spy.

The United Nations has been deploying a small number of human rights monitors to reassure refugees and gather evidence of human rights abuses.

Nigeria's sacked oil union chiefs back in court

LAGOS (R) — Leaders of Nigeria's oil unions, sacked by military ruler General Sani Abacha in a crackdown on their nine-week-old strike to topple his government, were back in court Wednesday to challenge their dismissal.

Represented by radical lawyer Gani Fawehinmi, himself a target of armed attacks on several pro-democracy activists last week, the unionists are asking the court to declare their sacking illegal.

The United States and Germany are insisting that sanctions cannot be lifted against Belgrade unless it agrees to international patrols to ensure that the Serbia-Bosnia border is sealed.

Washington is also keen to lift an international arms embargo which hits the mainly Muslim Bosnian government hardest, in response to the Bosnian Serb "no."

In a newspaper interview Tuesday, French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur repeated a threat to withdraw French peacekeepers from Bosnia if the arms embargo were lifted but said Belgrade's cutting of ties with the Bosnian Serbs "could be a turning point in the conflict."

In a separate decision, the French cabinet Wednesday approved a bill adapting French law to allow cooperation with an international tribunal in The Hague, set up to judge possible war crimes in former Yugoslavia

Crew members from the U.S. Coast Guard cutter Legare rescue Cuban rafters some 30 miles off the coasts of Cuba. Coast guard authorities reported seeing some 30 rafts on the Florida Straits by midday Tuesday (AFP photo)

Cuban exodus resumes

MIAMI (Agencies) — The U.S. Coast Guard rescued 731 Cubans trying to reach Florida by raft Tuesday, a significant increase since a weekend storm prevented people from leaving the Communist island nation.

That storm and repeated warnings that rafters would be held indefinitely at the U.S. navy's base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, reduced the numbers of refugees dramatically.

Only 84 rafters were picked up by the Coast Guard Sunday, but that number increased to 295 Monday.

By mid-afternoon Tuesday, Coast Guard ships had picked up 731 Cubans, a surge that mirrored what happened last week when the flow of refugees increased to as many as 3,000 a day.

"We were kind of pleased with the low numbers we were getting," said Chief Petty Officer Steve Sapp. "We were hoping for zero, but now we're back up to 731. It's not promising."

The Coast Guard had picked up 17,559 Cubans in August, as of Monday, bringing the year's total to 22,290 — more than in the last 10 years combined, said senior chief Luis Diaz.

Cubans began fleeing their homeland in large numbers Aug. 5 after the worst rioting of Cuban President Fidel Castro's rule. By last week, the flow of refugees had grown into the largest exodus since the 1980 Mariel boatlift brought 125,000 Cubans to Florida's shores in five months.

The union leaders have said they are in hiding to avoid arrest. Frank Kokori, the general secretary of the main oil union NUPENG, which launched the strike before it was joined by PENGASSAN, was detained shortly after Gen. Abacha's broadcast.

The union leaders are demanding in their suit that he should be produced in court.

They are also challenging the government's appointment of administrators to run their unions.

Their strike had choked off fuel supplies and cut Nigeria's crude oil production by about 20 per cent.

But the fuel crunch appears to be easing. The long queues for petrol visible in most cities in the last two months appeared shorter Wednesday. Motorists said the black market price of fuel had also come down. "Last week a 50 litre jerrycan of petrol was 1,500 naira (\$68). Today I bought it for 800 naira (\$36)," one said.

Nigeria's biggest oil refinery, located in the oil city of Port Harcourt, reopened Monday.

Three of the country's four refineries had been put out of action by the strike.

The Nigerian Tribune newspaper reported Wednesday that 15 people had been apprehended by security in Port Harcourt while allegedly attempting to bomb pipelines leading from the refinery to other parts of the country.

It did not say when the arrests took place and a police spokesman declined to comment.

The government has said it is taking seriously threats by union chiefs to sabotage the oil industry, Nigeria's economic mainstay.

Gen. Abacha, facing the toughest challenge of his 10-month rule, last week sacked his army and navy chiefs. He did not elaborate.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation established 1975

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Preparing

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS Prince of a meeting comprising a delegation to the Cairo Conference on Population Wednesday in order to articulate the importance of the Cairo Conference of opinion between the participating nations on the critical issues pertaining to birth control makes it all the more pressing that Jordan's stance on these and related issues become coherent. There is of course the economic side of the equation touching upon the link between population increases and development in all its aspects which was also addressed by the Wednesdays.

With regard to the reproductive issue before the global meeting in the abortion and birth control debate has already been elicited in working paper adopted day's preparatory meeting. The deep emotional charged topic of population control conforms to the indeed comforting aspect of the fact that we may find perspective in the school of thought in I charged topics. Unfortunately is deeply divided on the use of birth control methods aggressive population control clinging to more orthodox some Muslim countries such as Sudan have already opted to conference reflects the deep Islamic world on matters related to population control. In this sense resting the Jordanian case on Islam without further identifying and clarifying this position may put Jordan on a collision course with the other nations of the world including those who share our faith. And that is not all. We must not forget that there are other minority religions in Jordan whose stand on abortion and on birth control may also have to be reckoned with.

As for the other dimension of the subject matter, Jordan has a stake in population control since its meager resources, especially when it comes to water, must put a limit on the extent that we can accommodate population explosion whether naturally or by mass migrations due to political upheavals in the Middle East. How to reconcile all these considerations which could be diametrically opposed to one other on times is obviously the best challenge facing our delegation. Over and above these considerations, Jordan cannot adopt policy guidelines in the conference which are insensitive to the pressing needs of other countries of the world such as China, Indonesia and Egypt. The fact that Jordan is doing its homework in advance of the Cairo conference may indeed help the Jordanian delegation to be both constructive and sensitive to Jordan's peculiar circumstances.

ARABIC PRESS COMMUNITIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily Wednesday, called European, particularly French and German to achieve stability and peace in the Middle East. His Majesty King Hussein's visits to Europe and this was manifested in the official statements that supported the European endeavours. There is no doubt that Jordan has shown its support to thousands of displaced Palestinians. In their statements, the Jordanian officials were explicit about their intentions to contribute to provide aid to the country not only to pursue its own interests but also to help it shoulder its heavy burdens, added the daily. It is clear to the Europeans that Jordan seeks genuine and lasting peace and it is, therefore, hoped that the Europeans will come to Jordan's help in ensuring sustainable development and economic progress in the atmosphere of peace through continued economic assistance, the paper said.

A COLUMNIST IN AL DUSTOUR daily described media attacks on the Lebanese government for housing the displaced Palestinian refugees as ridiculous. Moving displaced Palestinians from the pavements of Beirut to humble homes by no means aims at settling them permanently in Lebanon, said Mohammad Kawash. These Palestinians had their homes destroyed in the civil war and the government is trying to house them temporarily until a permanent solution can be found, said the writer. This move, he said, cannot be described as settling refugees in Lebanon nor can it mean that the Palestinians have lost their national identity, stressed the writer. The Lebanese have all the right to reject a solution to the refugees problem at their own expense and the Palestinians refuse to see a regional conflict settled at the expense of their loss of their own homeland, added the writer. He said that the current move to help the refugees, conducted in cooperation with UNRWA, can only be described as a humanitarian gesture towards the helpless people.

The View From Academia

By Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoubah

The challenge of professional tourism

JUDGING FROM what we hear these days, and what we have been hearing for quite some time, by government officials, businessmen and ordinary citizens, Jordan seems to have taken the issue of marketing itself as a touristic country quite seriously. If this is the case indeed, then a great deal of hard work needs to be done.

The "if" here, first of all, is crucial. The question whether a country is touristically marketable is a real question. According to experts in the field, not any country with a few historical sites here and there (even if some of them happen to be quite magnificent), a few attractive locations and a few scenic views (no matter how breathtaking they may be) can succeed in selling itself to international or foreign tourists. Tourism is a complex matter — more complex than many of us think. In addition to substantial historic sites — which are archaeologically, aesthetically, anthropologically and culturally rich and profound — there has to be an interesting landscape, a congenial weather, an appealing social atmosphere, a mystique, a psychology, a philosophy. And there have to be, of course, viable policies and excellent services and facilities.

And there is also an economic dimension. For a country (like ours) to make itself more visible and more competitive, a great deal of money is to be spent. How much will the country actually get in return? After all, tourism is an industry, a trade and an investment. Whoever is in charge must carefully study the costs and the benefits. A few years ago, an Algerian professor of archaeology told me that in his opinion Algeria (and this was long before the present messy situation offered itself) would not be, despite its overall historic and geographic richness, worth investing money in for no matter how much you spent on improving its overall touristic prospects, you would not get your money's worth. He cited several reasons to prove his point.

Whether the Algerian professor's claim about the prospects of tourism in Algeria is valid or not, there is truth in the theme of his claim: A country ought to assess carefully its own qualifications and study well its economic prospects before it launches the costly campaign of tourist attraction. We assume that our Jordanian tourism experts have done their homework in this respect.

Secondly, there is no doubt that Jordan has done a great deal to encourage both local and foreign tourists to make use of its many charming spots. The neat/beautiful houses at Petra, the Dead Sea, Um Qais, Jerash, and other locations are examples of the fruitful cooperation between the public and private sectors of which we have seen much lately. Not long ago you could not find a single room during the high season in Aqaba; today, the situation has improved dramatically. The government has also improved transportation immensely; there is now a respectable network of roads and highways linking the various parts of the Kingdom, making trips to major sites and locations much more convenient and enjoyable than in the past. Taking into account that Jordan is a developing country

and that its resources are quite limited, the steps it has taken with the overall purpose of encouraging tourism are commendable indeed. This we must admit.

Thirdly, despite these dramatic changes and improvements, we have a long way to go. In my opinion, there is a big difference between what we may call "casual" tourism and professional tourism. The former is spontaneous, haphazard, disorganized, or limited in scope. It is either for the local visitor who aims to kill time or the foreign visitor who comes for a specific purpose. The latter is much more conscious, well-thought out, well-planned, well-advised, well-administered, well-executed. I would argue that ours has so far been primarily of the casual type.

For casual tourism, we do not have to do much. We can approach the things the way we have been for quite sometime. For professional tourism, however, we have to do a lot, if we want our efforts not to be wasted and if we want to generate real income.

The following, among other things, are a must:

— We need to take more care of the places we think are worth developing. I'll cite one example to illustrate the fact that many of our potentially excellent tourist attractions are in a sorrowful state. A few days ago I went to Al Hammam. The hot water was great; the small hotel was acceptable. In the afternoon, I took a walk in the small town in which the hot spring is located, called Al Mukhaybeh. I was shocked. Not only was it filthy, but it was also extremely neglected, out of shape, unappealing, depressed and depressing. This is a shame not only because the hot spring can attract and accommodate thousands of tourists, but there is also the famous site of the Yarmouk battle which could be publicized, the Yarmouk River, and the beautiful Golan Heights. The town could certainly use some basic facilities, some cleanliness, some trees on the sidewalk, may a sidewalk, etc.

— We need to prepare our citizens and educate them about tourism. So far we have not had a serious encounter with tourists; they are not part of our daily lives. Soon, they are expected to be. We need to explain a lot to our citizens, at the various levels of their dealings with tourists, in terms of how to deal with them. Tourists appreciate courtesy, but they do not relish rudeness or over-friendliness. We may even have to offer courses at schools or universities with this end in mind.

— We need to pay attention to the quality of service at our rest houses, shops, hotels, airports, airline offices, restaurants, etc. This is an area of real weakness in our part of the world.

Tourists are people who travel much, see much, and compare much. We have to be prepared to offer them the best of service, if we are to compete well.

I am all for professional tourism, if we feel we are up to it. But the challenge is great. We need to radically alter the looks of our touristic sites, our facilities, our services, our public behaviour, and our attitude. Can we do all of this? And can we do it well?

Looking to the future, learning from the past

By Nasouh Al Majali

THE FUTURE of the Middle East region in the peace era was the focus of attention of a group of intelligent Jordanians concerned with public affairs this week.

The question of the young Jordanian people's identity and its future influenced by the openness of the group, a physician by profession, who expressed fears that Arab youth identity could be lost under the pressure of the foreign and overwhelming currents that would undoubtedly leave their impact on Arab values and concepts, with the result that young people feel alienated in their own homeland.

Another member of the group, a lawyer by profession, is certain that the whole peace process is nothing but ceding of Arab right. Expressing his astonishment at the speed in which the peace talks are proceeding, he wondered how the Arab society would deal with a new situation whereby Jews could at any moment be converging on us in the form of tourists, tradesmen, or others.

A teacher called for cautious steps, saying that Arab society is in need of "immunization" in the face of the coming stage, warning against rushing to embrace the Jews. In his view, the Jordanian society is in need of a new language and new mentality that can absorb this "revolutionary move" at the same time, he said, one has to respect people's attitudes and feelings which have developed over the years of a totally different concept and orientation.

The peace process was described by a leftist taking part in this dialogue as a tool aimed at achieving for the colonialist powers and Israel what has not been accomplished through wars and conflict at the expense of the Arab Nation. In his view, Israel and the West have not changed their objectives at a time when Israel continues to occupy Arab land and impose its own will on the Arabs.

The peace process came under severe attack by a religious person who described the Jews as "the killers of prophets" and

who are not deterred from desecrating holy shrines by any inhibitions.

These were some of the ideas toyed over by the group, and whether they are based on logic or sentiments, they reflect similar situations among other groups of people who continually express their apprehensions to or reservations about the question of peace with Israel.

When it was my turn to speak, I told the physician that the coming peace constituted a gate leading to the future, but noted that our trip after passing the gate was not ready made for us.

It could be shaped by our endeavours and through hard work.

If we are careful and able to chart a sound course of action that would guarantee our interests, we should fear nothing of the future, I told him.

I indeed made it clear that peace does not mean that we have retreated from our objectives and sold our links with the Arab Nation, but it rather means substantiating the continual drain of our resources through war with a peaceful method that could save face on the one hand and help us regain our rights on the other.

If some people are apprehensive and fear for our religion, we should realize that danger to our faith lies in misinterpreting its requirements or acting in such a way that drives people away from it through bad behaviour.

The danger, in my view, lies with a certain group that imposes itself on us in the name of religion, acting as judges ruling over people with harsh decisions and verdicts, particularly whenever people differ in view with this group, which resorts to intimidation to impose its own will. This is done whenever people try to adopt a method or follow a course that would attain progress and prosperity in line with the requirements of the modern age.

No one in the world has this absolute right, and the religious scholars can only call people to worship God and behave. These should make their call gently without intimidation or harsh behaviour.

The danger to our religion stems from within

ourselves, especially if we fail to present the right image of the Islamic faith to the world and if we fail to uphold justice and moderation something which characterizes our true faith. Danger to our faith results from our clinging to the past.

It is true that Islam is targeted by Zionists and others, but should we demonstrate a moderate course of action in life and if we follow the right path, our adversaries will be at a loss and frustrated.

The best methods of calling people to follow the teachings of Islam can be successful when they are presented nicely and properly and attractively without any trend towards extremist sentiments. Indeed we seldom see such positive attitudes in our mosque preachers, who are, more often than not, delivering sermons marked with anger, attack or condemnation, forgetting that the worshippers too have their own intellects and sentiments and feelings that they can understand things without much ado.

Reasoning quietly can be much more effective on people than the language of harsh language, especially as some of our scholars indeed possess influence through their eloquence and can set a good example to other religious leaders.

Ours is a sublime faith and will remain safe and sound as long as it escapes the abuse of those elements who are considered alien to Islam and our tradition.

As to pan-Arabism, it is in disarray, with the Arab World deeply divided into states and entities. It is to be regretted that these states have been bedeviled with their own regimes who consecrated divisions and whose actions have adversely affected the meaning of nationalism.

The Palestine question, which is one of the most chronic and most complicated issues, has been behind the Arab World's weakness and inability to achieve the desired strength and progress. But the same issue has also given justification to Arab regimes to suppress any trend towards socio-political change and progress.

The result was some kind of schizophrenia, with Arab

leaders acting totally different from their beliefs and their concepts like saying that they advocate unity but are in fact acting towards consolidating divisions and secession, or claiming to be revolutionaries seeking liberation, but are in fact in practice wielding absolute power, oppressing their own peoples. And while advocating collective Arab action and economic integration, they demonstrate their keenness on blocking any path leading to Arab cooperation.

Never was Arabism at fault.

The fault lies with the political equation prevailing in the Arab World, which has rendered the Arabs impotent in the face of genuine change in many areas.

Yet the Arabs still have elements of unity and strength represented in their geographic and demographic proximity, which acts as a catalyst to the inevitable unity sought by the generations in the present and the future.

For this reason, one can say that the elements of our identity and our religion and ethnic origin are all firm and solid. Should the pressure caused by the outstanding issues, including the Palestine problem end, democracy would rule supreme serving as the true lever that stimulates and enhances real power and that causes the required change and brings justice which opens the door for the future without much ado.

Under democracy, the masses are the only beneficiary, provided they are ruled by a wise leadership that steers them most constructively and correctly towards attaining the requirements of modern life.

Democracy is bound to open for the coming generations wider avenues and a promising future because democracy puts an end to repression and opens the door for creativity.

Peace is a mere gate

which once we pass we shoulder the responsibility of shaping the future. If our endeavour is serious and if we create the appropriate circumstances for success, our future and that of the coming generations is ensured.

Thus we can ask: What about our own role and our efforts in shaping a future in

the Socialist Party in 1974 but distanced himself from its apparatus and factions, such endorsement was not entirely welcome.

Calls for Mr. Delors to run have multiplied since former premier Michel Rocard was ousted as PS leader in June following an European Parliament election debacle. Mr. Rocard was previously regarded as the left's natural candidate.

He steps down in January after a landmark decade in Brussels and there is still no clear whether he will ignore encouraging opinion polls and shrug off left-wing appeals to contest next April's French presidential election.

An ambivalent Delors, 69, came under yet more pressure to stand on January 18 at a meeting in the Brittany Port of Lorient of his club Témoin (witness), a left-wing political forum.

Jack Lang, a flamboyant former culture minister close to President Francois Mitterrand, threw his weight behind Mr. Delors — without ever naming him in deference to the latter's refusal to commit himself.

"We make the wish that a strong-willed president should also be the man to reconcile the French, and I believe I have been that man among us here," Mr. Lang told an audience including Mr. Delors.

"But I will not say his name... he is a free man, and he would be a president of reconciliation and struggle to forge a true democracy in France," Mr. Lang said.

Socialist Party (PS) spokesman Jean Glavany, in an interview on Radio-J, piled on the pressure saying: "Delors is the best-placed" to challenge conservatives favoured in opinion polls.

For Mr. Delors, an ex-finance minister who joined

Delors keeps French guessing

By John Follain
Reuter

LORIENT, France — European Commission (EC) president Jacques Delors is keeping Socialist supporters guessing whether he will yield to their pressure and stand for the French presidency or slip into retirement next year.

He steps down in January after a landmark decade in Brussels and there is still no clear whether he will ignore encouraging opinion polls and shrug off left-wing appeals to contest next April's French presidential election.

For a man hailed as the PS' possible saviour, Mr. Delors had precious little of the preacher's fire in him.

In a short speech on Sunday, Mr. Delors said his club temoin was "neither a presidential stable, nor a group which wants to conquer a party."

But he did lift a veil on what could be the campaign issues, saying citizens were distrustful of the state, and blasting "those in power who manipulate the state." He denounced conservatives who argue it is possible to reduce taxes and maintain the welfare system intact, and appealed for more grassroots democracy.

Refusing to be swayed, a moody Delors blew hot and cold on the likelihood of his standing at a Saturday news conference.

Signalling he might not stand, Mr. Delors said that he was not scared of retirement, that nobody had ever disposed of him, and that being a candidate could endear him on his independence.

His closest aides say he is not playing games — he is genuinely undecided.

way in which they will be invested and utilised for the benefit of all. We should remember that Jordan was a recipient of huge funds over the past years, which unfortunately turned into an economic burden.

Only when the people feel that investments and funds are aimed at ensuring prosperity for the public in general can plans achieve success. We should remember the recent experiments and the 1988 events and take a lesson from the past experiences. Our country will be successful only if priorities for investment and development are carefully chosen to meet national requirements. The success of projects can be best measured through results and ability to solve part of our economic difficulties, like unemployment and external indebtedness.

It is on these points that efforts by His Majesty King Hussein together with those of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan are being exerted. They are careful to deal with any eventualities and

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Weekender

Sept. 1, 1994

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Published Every Thursday

the Socialist Party in 1976, but distanced himself from its apparatus and faculties. Such endorsement was not entirely welcome.

Calls for Mr. Delors to run have multiplied since former premier Michel Rocard was ousted as PS leader in June following an European Parliament election debacle. Mr. Rocard was previously regarded as the left's natural candidate. As he loudly insists, the value he holds dearest in his own independence. Mr. Delors has the unpleasant feeling that he is being boxed into a corner. His aides say.

For a man hailed as the PS' possible saviour, Mr. Delors had precious little of the preacher's fire in him.

In a short speech on Sunday, Mr. Delors said his club's motto was "neither a presidential stable, nor a faction of the PS, nor a group which wants to conquer a party."

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His closest aides say he is not playing games — he is genuinely undecided.

By Mohammad Mashariqa

The last six weeks were exceptional in Jordan's cultural life. The Kingdom witnessed four big festivals for culture and arts (Fuheis, Karak, Azraq) and the holding of the third Forum for Literature Criticism, sponsored by the Ministry of Culture. The organisers pretended to be promoting local art and culture through the inclusion of domestic items on their programmes. A battalion of 200 poets and writers, the majority of them residing in Amman, were officially invited and expected to give their contributions at all these festivals.

The festival's administrators put a great deal of emphasis on highlighting the local cultural movement. The shortage of proper domestic culture however was evident. The organisers blame writers and artists who either did not show up at all or turned down the invitations. Those who turned up, however, were forced to repeat themselves. Others were disappointed with the over all attitude of the festival's administrators. Some say that their concern did not go further than announcing the artists' names in the newspapers. Writers and poets who accepted the challenge complain that the arrangements agreed

Many festivals, same artists

with the organisers to put on a proper show were not taken seriously which in turn affected the quality of their presentations.

The festivals and the forum were successful as far as projecting a positive cultural role, but they lacked better coordination and organisation. In order to provide enough time for all participants to make constructive and creative preparations, either these occasions should take place in different times of the year or the artists' participation should be defined according to their readiness to offer the audience new and genuine art work.

AMMAN CULTURAL PULSE

The other change to be introduced is the way organisers deal with the concept of the regional festivals. Their ambition to have a big cultural event in small towns clashes with the festival's objectives of presenting domestic experiments in the fields of art, folklore, history, archaeology and research to be done in exploring cultural symbols.

If we take Azraq as an example, which genuinely blends Druze, bedouin and peasant subcultures, there is no doubt that such a festival has a great potential

for cultural and touristic exploitation. The same applies to Fuheis and Karak, which are unique cultural treasures because of their historical and ethnic particularities.

In spite of these facts, the festivals' sponsors put a great deal of emphasis on famous Arab stars, giving them priority in terms of propaganda, accommodation and recognition, while the local artists were left at the bottom of their agendas. The reasons behind this lay in the financial profit such shows are capable of producing. The second Fuheis Festival, for example, was this year a parade for Iraqi artists in different art fields and the slogans about the festival being an input in enriching Jordanian culture remained only sentences without meaning. While promotion of Najwa Karam's concert brought 13,000 visitors into a small town with unprepared infrastructure for hosting such a high number, the poorly propagated recitals of the local artists, some of them internationally known, were attended only by family members and friends.

The same attitude dominated the Karak Festival.

If seems organisers assume that the increase in the quantity of cultural activities, regardless of their content, should improve the quality at future festivals. But it could also be that their intentions, in

first place, is to make profit.

Whatever their motives are the time has come for evaluating their work and looking into people's expectations of the festivals.

In order to secure conditions for local growth and open doors for international recognition, there should be a distribution of activity among the festivals. While the Jerash Festival should maintain its international level, the town festivals should assume a local role. The local festivals should be part of a wider tourism policy mobilising local creative work. The Jerash Festival could select the best domestic art achievements and promote them internationally. In order to play such a role, the Jerash Festival should grow into a big institution with a network of communities to be assigned the task of identifying the art movement not only on Arab and international levels, but also at home. In this sense, special attention should be given to the local participants at the Jerash Festival. Their art work should be selected for the quality and content. All local participants should reflect the Jordanian cultural image internationally. It is a big responsibility. From now on it is our foremost duty to cater for and breed the local art movement with deeper concern and higher consciousness.

People who exercise 'burn more fat even if they overeat'

By Paul Raeburn

The Associated Press TORONTO — People who exercise then reach for more snacks might not lose weight, but they will alter their body chemistry in a way that burns up more fat, a researcher reports.

Dr. Jorge Calles, an endocrinologist at the University of Vermont, offered what he called the first carefully controlled study to show that fat

burning increases significantly with exercise, even if people eat too much.

People get their energy by burning a combination of fat and carbohydrates, Dr. Calles said. In people who are naturally lean, the ratio of fat burned to carbohydrates burned is higher than in people who are overweight.

Dr. Calles found that exercise shifts that ratio so people get a higher percentage of their energy

from burning fat.

He reported his findings at the seventh international congress on obesity.

Dr. Calles said the study supports the idea that exercising can help people lose weight. That might seem obvious, but it has been the subject of debate among obesity specialists, he said.

"There's no question about the cardiovascular benefits, and no question exercise is helpful for people with diabetes," Dr. Calles said. "But for treatment of obesity, there is a debate."

Dr. Calles' study involved 20 people. Some were overfed 1,000 calories per day and were not allowed to exercise, while others were overfed and assigned to do just enough exercise to burn up the extra 1,000 calories.

In those who were overfed without exercise, the amount of fat burned dropped from the equivalent of 518 calories per day to 97 calories per day. The subjects were offered a choice of either high-fat foods or high-carbohydrate foods after exercising. In an encouraging sign, researchers found that the subjects had no special preference for high-fat foods after working out.

burning of carbohydrates.

In those who were overfed and who exercised, fat burning rose from the equivalent of 406 calories per day to 685, while the burning of carbohydrates fell.

Dr. Calles acknowledged that the numbers of people in his study were small, but said it is difficult to do large studies when people must be kept in a clinic for days at a time to monitor their diets and their physical activity.

The studies so far have been done on people with normal weights, he said. He is now planning similar studies with obese subjects, to see if they react differently to exercise.

Learning to drive a Formula 1 car

By Philippe Joubin

Dreaming of being a Formula 1 racing-driver, you veer left and then right and perform heel and toe manoeuvres. But you do not need to practise on your own car any more. The Winfield School, which is the best of its kind, enables you to make your dream come true and to become a Formula 1 racing driver.

PARIS — In the classroom, you could hear the flies. A dozen young people literally drank in the words of their instructor. The lesson was about the study of trajectories. It was theory which was later to be followed by practical training in a Renault Formula-type of single-seater racing car.

Car racing no longer holds any secrets for the instructors at the Winfield School. Since 1964, more

than twenty-six Formula 1 racing-drivers have learnt their profession there. They include famous seniors such as François Cevert, René Arnoux, Patrick Tambay and Didier Pironi and more recent ones such as Alain Prost and Jean Alesi. All of them attended either Magny-Cours or the Paul Ricard Circuit, which are the two centres for the French Formula 1 school. At regular intervals, the

trainee racing-drivers return to the classroom to learn the theory of steering and heel-and-toe techniques, which form the basis of a racing-driver's profession. After that, they train on the circuit, doing a few laps on a 16 valve Renault Clio, together with an instructor. Then comes the long-awaited moment. Patiently, each student gets into a single-seater. They check the position of their hands on the wheel, examine the controls, receive the last recommendations from their instructors and they are off, with the four-cylinder engine roaring behind their backs. There is no lack of thrills.

Slowly, the car swings out from the straight line of the stands and enters the circuit. They get their first feelings, their first contact and their first sweat. Their dream gradually comes true.

One by one, the students climb into the seats and make a series of twelve laps, gradually going faster and faster. From the edge of the track, two instructors watch them and dissect the behaviour of each of them before holding an in-depth debriefing to explain the mistakes to avoid and the way to improve the qualities that they display at the wheel. At the end of the training ses-

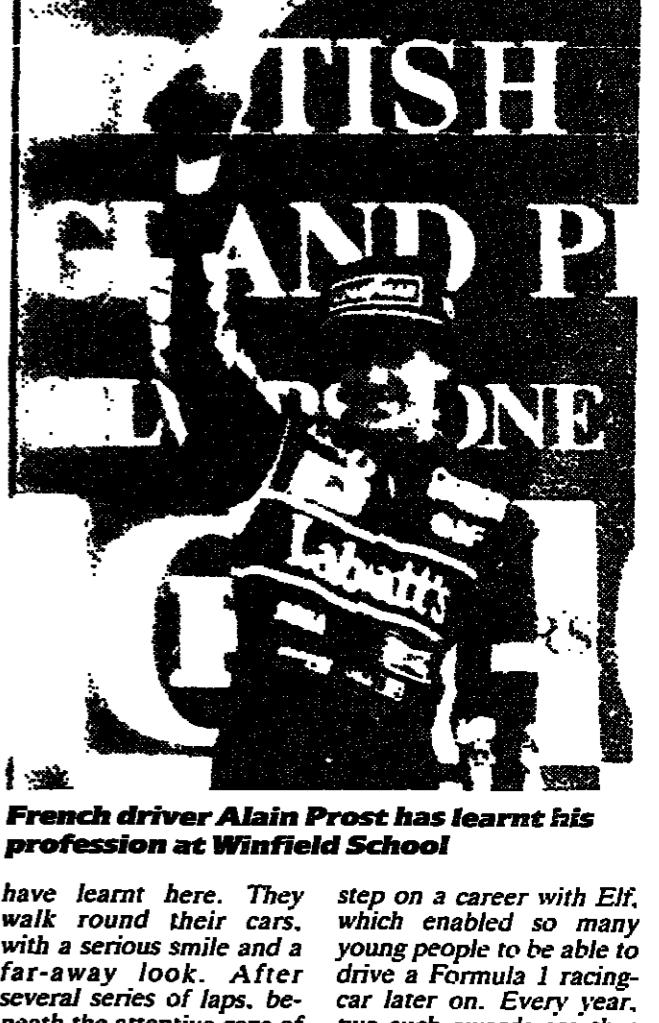
sion, once the twelve series of twelve laps have been completed, as well as the lessons on theory, each student is ready to take part in the selection for the semi-finals of the "Volant Elf", which offers them the chance of a career with Elf.

Dreams come true

About twenty semi-finalists are thus selected from among the best students of the year. Once again, each of them does a series of twelve laps and only the five fastest are chosen for the final. It is a great moment and one which sometimes determines their careers and their lives.

However, not all of the most talented racing-drivers who qualified from the Winfield School won the "Volant Elf". Jacques Laffite, for instance, who, throughout his exemplary career in F1, wore the logo of the school that was so dear to him, on his green crash-helmet, did not manage to win it. Neither did Jean Alesi or Damon Hill. But that did not and will not prevent these racing-drivers from having a fine top-level career.

The day of the final dawns. The five young people look defiantly at one another. They are extremely stressed. Patiently, they go over what they have learnt here. They walk round their cars, with a serious smile and a far-away look. After several series of laps, beneath the attentive gaze of a jury consisting of actual racing-drivers, team-leaders, journalists and time-keepers from the International Automobile Sport Federation, one of them will win a complete season in the Renault Formula 1 French championships. It is the first



French driver Alain Prost has learnt his profession at Winfield School

step on a career with Elf, which enabled so many young people to be able to drive a Formula 1 racing-car later on. Every year, two such awards are thus made, one for each circuit.

They patiently learn their profession at the Winfield School so that, one day, they may start out on a brilliant career and on the road to fame — L'Actualité En France.

Some of the top students of Winfield School become Formula 1 drivers

Portugal's giants lure crowds in 'queen of festivals'

By Helena Pozniak

Reuter

VIANA DO CASTELO, Portugal — Burly and sweating, the young man dons a flowery frock and a giant woman's mask to twirl about the streets as a mock-bride looking for a husband.

The costume weighs 55 kilos (20 pounds), says 22-year-old Pedro, before hoisting the garish papier mache head onto his shoulders to become a colossus four-metre (13 feet) giant dancing his way through Portugal's "queen of festivals".

Many dress in colourful traditional costumes and perform folk dances to the music of bagpipes and drums.

The annual celebrations in honour of the local religious patron, the Virgin of Agony, are repeated on a more modest scale in scores of towns and villages across Portugal.

Up to 150,000 pilgrims

returning emigrants throng to Viana Do Castelo every August for a dazzling display of folklore that has made this one "the queen of festivals."

Pedro's dance mocks one of the festival traditions, a parade by young girls dressed up as brides in all their finery to advertise themselves to potential husbands.

Girls clad in black beaded bridal dresses and heavy gold chains, holding candles as symbols of their purity, still march in a procession through Viana Do Castelo every year, but they are no longer an attraction.

While the girls are still happy to dress up as brides, the festival organisers say they have problems in attracting teenage boys to dress as angels for another of the traditional parades.

"Boys are already thinking of other things," said Amadeu Costa, 74, who was organising the festival for the 20th time this year.

"Viana's festivities are the greatest in Portugal," he says, echoing a boast of many older people in the town.

"In the old days people loved to meet and go to the fairs — there weren't many opportunities for entertainment then," said one 71-year-old shopkeeper, remembering the hordes of people who used to flood into Viana Do Castelo's festival from the surrounding countryside.

The festival began as a purely religious ceremony in the 17th century, when local fishermen would pray for a safe year afloat. The image of "Our Lady of Agony" is taken out to sea to bless the water every year.

The event grew into a colourful popular festival after it was granted the status of a fair in 1772 and traders were allowed to set up stalls.

"This was the start of the festival as we know it," Mr. Costa said.

Although Viana Do Castelo's importance as a fishing port has declined sharply in recent years,

Mr. Costa scrupulously observes more than two centuries of tradition and insists that the festival retain its original link with the sea-faring community.

"Most of Viana's fishing boats have been sunk or been left to rot now — but many, especially the older people, haven't forgotten what the 'festas' mean."

In the old fishing quarter people work through the night to carpet the streets with petals, creating a floral walkway for the statue's procession.

"She is our protector — the most important thing you can have when you are out at sea," said 67-year-old Manuel Castro Cunha, who was a fisherman for 55 years.

Have all the viruses gone?

By Jean-Claude Elias

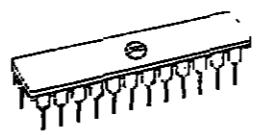
A strange disease began affecting computers' operation in the years 1990 and 1991. Smart but unscrupulous programmers got the idea of inserting "programming errors" in their work. Such intentional "errors" were designed in a way that they would automatically copy themselves onto other disks and systems. They would therefore spread like a contagious disease. People named them, quite logically, viruses.

The damage a computer virus does to a system tremendously varies from simple files erasure to complete blocking of the operation of a machine. The nastiest forms can be dormant on the unit's hard disk, and become active only weeks, months later. Some viruses can make the whole PC (personal computer) behave in such an erratic way that it could take a few days before the user realises he was hit by a virus and calls for professional help.

In 1992 and 1993, viruses caused extensive damage to computer systems worldwide. Mainly to PCs, because disks inter-copying is a very common practice in the field of personal computing. As it could be expected, anti-virus software was then designed with the aim to first detect viruses and second to clean the disks from them. Advanced virus scanners — as the programmes for virus protection are called — have utilities that would guard PCs from the disease and detect it before it even starts infecting the system.

Surprisingly enough, this year has seen much less virus attacks. Although the number of known virus pattern now exceeds an awesome 2000, scanner programmes seem to have become very effective in protecting the systems. Some hardware manufacturers even include a built-in electronic circuit that is supposed to break any infection attempt. Even if such a device cannot be an absolute shield, it

chip talk



certainly helps increase the protection level.

It could also be that software criminals, who have nothing to gain materially from creating viruses, are tired of their little game. Their act was like a stimulating, exciting challenge at the beginning. They wanted to prove to themselves that they could do it. They may not see any point in proceeding further now. They may also have been taught a lesson by being hit themselves by others' viruses.

Perhaps the main reason behind the decrease in the number of virus attacks is the user's high level of awareness and caution. Practically all PC users now use excellent scanner software. Even the non-professionals have heard of viruses and usually ask their computer supplier, a friend or any specialist to advise them on the best protection methods and software.

The chain reaction may just have been broken. Without being over optimistic — there are still some viruses around — we can say that the threat has fallen well below the panic level. It is a typical case where awareness has defeated the disease. Would it be relevant to draw a comparison with other "real" diseases? Could this serve as an example? Only doctors could tell.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuqair

HOWLERS

* Angler: A man who spends rainy days sitting on the muddy banks of rivers doing nothing because his wife won't let him do it at home.

★ ★ ★ ★

* Hero: A man who is famous today and will bore us tomorrow.

★ ★ ★ ★

* Doctors: The best doctors in the world are: Doctor Diet, Doctor Quiet and Doctor Merriman.

★ ★ ★ ★

* Bachelor: A man who enjoys the chase and does not eat the game.

★ ★ ★ ★

* Husband: A man who is left of the lover after the nerve has been extracted.

★ ★ ★ ★

LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC

— Despise your purse, but consider your person.

Aheen filsak wala taheen nafsa.

— God never expects you to do more than you can.

La yokalifol'lahu nafsan illa woss'aha.

— I'm proud and you proud, who shall carry the dirt out? An amir wa'ants amir, faman yassookul hamir?

— Ill-gotten property never lasts.

Malul haram la yadoom.

— It is a blessing to keep moving. fil haraka haraka.

— When the cat is away, mice will play.

Eza ghab el-kit, il'ab ya far.

— Turn away from evil's way, and let it pass.

Eb'id anish'shar wa' ganniluh.

— Laugh and the world would laugh with you.

Id'hak tad'hak laked'donia

★ ★ ★ ★

TIME FOR FUN

* A stupid man got into a restaurant and ordered a dish of macaroni which he has never tasted before. On seeing them, he thought they were small snakes grilled in an oven. As soon as he started eating, one of them fell down on his clothes. Feeling scared, he called the owner of the restaurant saying: Help me, sir, there's one here which is still alive!"

★ ★ ★ ★

* After the departure of the train, the station master saw a man bursting with laughter.

"What are you laughing at, sir?" said the master to the man.

"Strange is this world. He invited me to his home and then came to see me off at the station. He took the train to take me here alone!"

★ ★ ★ ★

BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. What is the Fourth Estate?

YOUR CHARACTER IN FOCUS

(Born on 6th June)

— Has strong magnetism and is very attractive to the opposite sex.
— Dislikes any form of restraint and has a great desire for independence.
— His ambition is to rise above his friends.
— A pleasant personality to meet and is always charming to be with.
— His talk is interesting and lively.
— Fond of music, dancing and poetry.
— Loves a life full of ease and luxuries, money and happiness.
— Prefers spending to saving.
— Considerate and optimistic.
— Emotional but keeps his emotions to himself.
— His anger doesn't easily subside.
— Very responsible and loves his children, but receives little happiness from them.
— A good conversationalist and enjoys intellectual combats.
— Sharp, brilliant, quick and sensitive.

★ ★ ★ ★

PUZZLES

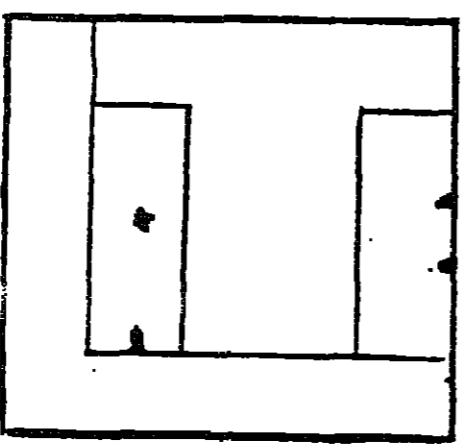
(A) What everyday word in the English language is most often pronounced incorrectly.

★ ★ ★ ★

(B) Which of these three cities is nearest to the equator? And which is farthest?

EDINBURGH, Scotland; GLASGOW, Scotland; MOSCOW, Russia.

(C) HIDDEN WORD:
Can you make out a four-letter word hidden in this strange figure?



Cracks could send Dracula castle tumbling down

By Roxana Dascalu

Reuter

BRAN, Romania — Count Dracula's legendary Transylvanian castle is cracking up.

Engineers have found several fissures in the rock foundation of the 14th century fortress and warn it could collapse unless sufficient cash is found for repairs.

Bran Castle, set amid picturesque but earthquake-prone mountain slopes 200 kilometres north of Bucharest, is at risk from a major tremor, they say.

But state funds for emergency consolidation works have run dry.

The building earned its reputation as a house of horrors from old stories about the mediaeval Prince Vlad Tepes — known as Vlad The Impaler — the role model for 19th century Irish novelist Bram Stoker's Count Dracula.

In the dark ages, Vlad earned a blood-curdling reputation for impaling his unlucky foes on sharpened spikes.

The road leading to the castle is still called "the road of spikes" in local jargon — as a memento to the prince's habit of impaling criminals on the roadside to discourage thieving.

Whilst there are no bats fluttering around creaking coffins or fanged fiends lurking in dark corners, Bran Castle does boast one or two creepy features to help tourists' imaginations along.

Standing aloft on a rock jutting out of the surrounding dark woods, the spires on its main towers pierce the sky with a sinister air. A sonorous chime on one of the towers is activated whenever a storm approaches.

And one of the main attractions in its 56 rooms is a huge, intricately-decorated four-poster bed — with adjacent crucifix.

Thousands of tourists drawn by the Dracula legend and the beauty of the surroundings regularly flock to the castle gates, to visit the premises and an open air village museum on the castle grounds.

Chances of finding the repair money lie more with them than the cash-strapped government, many believe.

The cost of mending the cracks is estimated at some \$272,000 — a small bite for Dracula, but more than Romania can apparently afford.

A small chapel in the inner yard of the castle contains the grave of Prince Mircea, youngest son of Romania's former Queen Marie, to whom the castle passed after World War I.

A headstone which fell from the grave has still not been replaced after two years.

The slab was taken away for repairs, and it has not been returned since, curators say. "You see, there is little money for repairs," one added.

Queen Marie had the castle interiors redecorated and modernised and she used it as a summer residence.

But its fortunes waned after World War II when Moscow-backed Communists seized power in Romania and abolished the monarchy in 1947.

Abandoned and laid waste after the war, it became a museum in the late 1950s. It was closed seven years ago for repairs and reopened to the public last year.

"In the end, it seems that Dracula holds the key to our problems," one woman said, as she watched rows of Japanese, Arab and Western holidaymakers climbing the steep mountain slope to the castle.

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, Sept. 1

8:30 The Heart of Courage

9:10 Murder She Wrote

10:00 News In English

10:20 Movie Of The Week

Friday, Sept. 2

8:30 Sixty Minutes

9:00 E.N.G.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Emilie

Saturday, Sept. 3

7:30 Dimensions

Eating Plants

How do eating plants devour flies... and how they defend themselves.

8:30 Movies, Videos And Games

The latest in video and computer games, as well as the latest best selling movies, like: Backbeat, Four Weddings and a Funeral and Cool Running.

9:00 One To One

9:30 The Campbells

A Time For Goodbyes

Will Dr. James accept an excellent offer to work in Toronto?

10:00 News In English

10:20 Feature Film — Happy New Year

Starring: Peter Falk, Charles Durning

A comedy about two outlandish crooks who are out to rob a jewelry store... but one false step will buy a one-way ticket to jail!

Sunday, Sept. 4

7:30 F.B.I. — Untold Stories

Revealing stories of real happenings, re-enacted on the silver screen.

8:30 Step By Step

Dina thinks she is actually free to go to a Chicago University... little does she know that Kodie is at her heels.

9:10 Quantum Leap

A Little Miracle

Sam goes back in time to 1962. His job is to serve at a mansion owned by a rich man, known for his selfishness and aggressive behaviour.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Snowy River

Kathleen and Luke are both out looking for something — and both find love.

Monday, Sept. 5

7:30 Black Beauty

Horse Thief

Bella is accused of stealing the horse. Beauty, but one person comes forward to help reveal the truth.

8:30 Home Free

Vanessa fails her exams but still manages to hold a party at home.

9:10 Galactic Odyssey

A Chat With ET

Any signals from outer space indicating life on other planets? A question put to scientists to find an answer.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Matrix

Masked Man

Steve's mission is to save an old man from an imminent death.

Tuesday, Sept. 6

7:30 Innovation

How to combat lead poisoning — that gets to people through dust and certain kinds of paints.

8:10 Hollywood Stuntmakers

Best shots from movies where stuntmen perform some of the most dangerous and risky acts.

9:30 The Commish

The Hatchet

The commissioner fight against cutting down his department's budget, as saving people's lives is certainly much more important than figures on paper.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Come In Spinner

In Sydney, Australia, during World War II, we follow the lives of three women... who seek company.

Wednesday, Sept. 7

7:30 P.M. Magazine

8:30 Bob

Bob happens to hear unfavourable criticism of his work... from the room next door.

9:1

Dracula

town

main attractions in its 56 rooms is a decorated four-poster bed — with visitors drawn by the Dracula legend be surroundings regularly flock to visit the premises and an open air repair money lie more with strapped government, many

riding the cracks is estimated at small bite for Dracula, but more apparently afford.

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vacation after World War II when communists seized power in Romania in 1947.

Waste after the war, it became 1950s. It was closed seven years reopened to the public last year.

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Jamie Lee Curtis — slinky, or rather, gumby

By Douglas J. Rowe

The Associated Press
NEW YORK — In the black minidress she's wearing, Jamie Lee Curtis comes across as slinky. She's wiry, rubbery.

More and more, the erstwhile "scream queen" who first gained attention with 1978's *Halloween* seems to be a physical, comic actress.

"I like being a clown. And I think a clown really is a nice way to put it, because of its mixed message that you get: A clown doesn't take itself too seriously — it can make you cry and it can make you laugh. And that's what a good clown can do," said the 35-year-old Curtis, who co-stars with Arnold Schwarzenegger in the action-adventure

movie *True Lies*.

"I really look at my job as being just a female, paid movie clown," she said. "It means I can use my whole body. I'm most proud of my body work in this movie — not my physical shape, but my body language."

Curtis credited comedy actor John Ritter with offering good advice.

"I remember John coming up to me and saying, 'no matter what, just remember: You have very funny feet,'" she said, demonstrating by fending off an imaginary amorous suitor with her legs and feet.

Director Terry Gilliam also urged her to concentrate on comedy, saying: "Why don't you stop trying so hard to be a 'good actress'

and do what you're good at?..."

"It was a great gift he gave me, because what he was saying is, 'you're funny. You're a light, funny woman.'

Her range of performances is wide, encompassing her early horror films, sexy roles in *Trading Places* and *Perfect* and a tough cop in *Blue Steel*, as well as softer parts in *Domestic* and *Eugene and My Girl*.

Still, she's taking Gilliam and Ritter's advice on comedy seriously.

"Now, I'm really aware of how you can be so duplicitous, or 'triplicitous,' if that's a word. You can be using so many things with each other: So you can be saying something, your foot can be

doing something else, your hand can be doing something else — all conveying something different, even contradictory," she said.

As Helen Tasker, the frumpy legal secretary married to a superspy who she thinks is a boring computer salesman, Curtis displays her ability to be a demosthenes of body language.

She metamorphoses from mousy to macho after almost dallying in an extramarital affair and then getting involved in her husband's real business — stopping terrorists.

Once Helen has thrown off the shackles of a bored wife, she performs a strip-tease dance that's a fun synthesis of silliness and sexiness, leaving *True*

Lies fans abuzz.

Despite her success, Curtis said it's unnatural for her to talk about the craft of acting because she thinks of her abilities as "instinctive" (possibly

that's by dint of having actress Janet Leigh and actor Tony Curtis as parents).

"I'm not a particularly intelligent human being. And beyond what my instincts tell me about something, I'm not particularly learned," Curtis said early in the conversation.

Later, she returned to that notion, talking about how she thinks of her life as a halfway with check-points.

"It's not like I went to Juilliard and can do a *French West Indies* accent, as well as a Tibetan OK," she said.

Only then, she said, can she start with page one.

"I don't like suspense. Don't like surprises at all. Never, ever throw me a surprise party. ... I would probably get angry. I don't like to be surprised. It scares me."



Jamie Lee Curtis

Autumn movies loaded with dramas

By Bob Thomas

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Can Hollywood get serious and still score a record year at the box office? That's the issue facing the studios as they prepare for a fall season inordinately filled with dramas.

John Krier, whose Exhibitor Relations Co. tracks box-office performance, believes a new record is doubtful.

The flood of serious-minded movies partly is motivated by the film companies' strategy of slotting their Academy Award hopefuls toward the end of the year. The reasoning is that movies released late will be fresh in the voters' minds.

However, no one ever forgets an excellent movie screened earlier in the year: such as, Oscar winner *The Silence of the Lambs*, which opened in February.

The companies also have shown an increasing reluctance to send dramas into the summer marketplace. That's when out-of-schoolers and vacationers seek more mindless entertainment, mainly high-speed action and over-the-top comedy.

John Krier, whose Exhibitor Relations Co. tracks box-office performance, believes a new record is doubtful.

"The current total is about \$1.9 billion, which is 1 or 2 per cent ahead of last year's record, which finished at \$5.2 billion," he observes.

"But in looking over the fall product, I see no potential *Fatal Attraction*, *Crocodile Dundee* or *Stand By Me* — pictures that have 'legs.' Unless something surprising pops up, it's going to be a hard autumn — a lot of tough sells and too many formula pictures out there."

Here's sampler of what ticket buyers can expect during the autumn season:

DRAMA

— *Nobody's Fool* — Paul Newman returns to a family he left behind. With Jessica Tandy and Melanie Griffith. Opening sometime in October.

— *The Perez Family* — Marisa Tomei and Angelica Huston in a story of Cuban refugees. Nov. 11.

— *Pontiac Moon* — Ted Danson is an eccentric teacher and Mary Steenburgen his reclusive wife in a story that parallels the 1969 moon landing. Oct. 21.

— *A Simple Twist Of Fate* — Steve Martin stars in his own script about a man who struggles to keep his adopted daughter. Sept. 2.

— *Quiz Show* — Robert Redford returns to directing with a comedy-drama about the 1950s TV quiz show scandals. Sept. 16.

— *Ed Wood* — Tim Burton essays the strange life of the maker of *Schlock* movies. Johnny Depp stars. Oct. 7.

— *The Shawshank Redemption* — murderer Tim Robbins befriends another lifer, Morgan Freeman, in a New England prison. Sept. 23.

— *Interview With The Vampire* — vampire Tom Cruise gives an interview to Christian Slater telling of his 200-year travails. Nov. 18.

— *Love Affair* — Warren Beatty, Annette Bening and Katharine Hepburn update the twice-filmed tearjerker canonized in *Sleepless In Seattle*. (The second version was retitled *An Affair To Remember*) Oct. 14.

— *Second Best* — William Hurt as a single man in a Welsh village who adopts a disturbed boy. Sept. 30.

— *The War* — Kevin Costner plays a supporting role in a southern story about a boy (Elijah Wood) and a treehouse. Nov. 11.

— *Mrs. Parker And The Vicious Circle* — Jennifer Jason Leigh as Dorothy Parker with an ensemble cast as 1920s New York literati. Nov. 23.

— *Miracle On 34th Street* — Richard Attenborough as Santa Claus in a remake of the holiday classic. Nov. 23.

— *Blue Sky* — Jessica Lange and the omnipresent Tommy Lee Jones as a lascivious wife and a dedicated nuclear engineer. Sept. 16.

ACTION/ADVENTURE

— *Terminal Velocity* — Skydiver Charlie Sheen becomes involved in international intrigue when a student, Nastassja Kinski, turns out to be a KGB agent. Sept. 23.

— *Star Trek: Generations* — Capt. Kirk (William Shatner) joins Patrick Stewart and his "next generation" crew. Sept. 18.

— *Rape Nui* — Jason Scott Lee as a tribal leader in the 17th-century turmoil on Easter Island. Sept. 9.

— *Silent Fall* — Child psychologist Richard Dreyfuss tries to solve a double murder. Oct. 28.

— *The Specialist* — Sylvester Stallone as an explosives expert dodging danger in Miami. With Sharon Stone, James Woods and Eric Roberts. Oct. 7.

— *Trial By Jury* — Joanne Whalley-Kilmer plays a juror threatened in the New York trial of a crime boss. Also with William Hurt and Armand Assante. Sept. 9.

COMEDY

— *The Road To Wellville* — Anthony Hopkins as turn-of-the-century health guru Harvey Kellogg, co-starring Bridget Fonda, Matthew Broderick, John Cusack and Dana Carvey. Oct. 21.

— *Junior* — Former Twins Arnold Schwarzenegger and Danny DeVito reunite in a fantasy about an odd kind of pregnancy. With Emma Thompson and Frank Langella. Nov. 23.

— *The Scout* — Failing baseball scout Albert Brooks discovers a hot but eccentric prospect. Brendan Fraser. Sept. 30.

— *Welcome To Paradise* — Nicolas Cage and two brothers come to a small town from New York to pull off a big heist, but the natives charm them. Sometime in October.

— *Speechless* — Michael Keaton and Geena Davis fall in love although they write speeches for opposing candidates. *Sound Familiar?* Dec. 16.

CHILDREN

— *A Troll In Central Park* — Don Bluth's seventh animated film takes another shot at the Disney monopoly. Oct. 7.

Tom Cruise stars in the movie *Interview With The Vampire*

For many, Russian beauty revolution is not even skin deep

By Sebastian Smith

Agence France Presse

rights, fashion industry

representatives said.

There's a future because the Russian woman travels now, she knows what's going on in the world, she learns," said Jean-Noel Lemond, the 26-year-old artistic manager at the recently opened Jacques Dessange Beauty Salon in Moscow.

As post-Soviet women undo their beehives, shake off the babushka look and head for the swanky beauty salons and haute-couture shops, they are also asserting independence and women's

men's alcoholism has always been a "serious problem for Russian women and now about 70 per cent of the rapidly growing violence against women is caused by their drunken partners or relatives," she said.

Prostitution rings run by organised crime gangs are often ignored by corrupt or lax police forces, she said.

In urban areas, 80 per cent of the regularly unemployed are women, while mental illnesses and suicide are on the rise, she said.

Men's alcoholism has always been a "serious problem for Russian women and now about 70 per cent of the rapidly growing violence against women is caused by their drunken partners or relatives," she said.

At the Jacques Dessange salon the prognosis is more bullish.

Haircuts range from \$4 to \$10, about the average Russian monthly salary.

For about \$200, technicians will clip, massage, cleanse, vibrate and tan a body from head to toe.

Some 50 customers come in daily, Ms. Lemond said.

"Every woman decides what's important to her. One decides she needs good food, another good furniture," said Elenna Chynosova, 30, who had come to have her hair cut by Ms. Lemond.

Was the haircut important to her? "Absolutely," Ms. Chynosova replied.

Jordanian doctor — a pioneer in cryosurgery

By Roger Signor
ST. LOUIS Mission — Jessie Murray, 78, a retired Chrysler inspector who lives in Pacific, chose a controversial way of treating his prostate cancer.

Instead of having his prostate surgically removed, he had it frozen.

Dr. Abraham S. Hawatmeh of St. Louis inserted tiny "cryoprobes" into Murray's malignant gland last December. The probes' tips contained liquid nitrogen that cooled his gland to 40 degrees below zero that should have been cold enough to destroy the cancer cells: a process that requires

freezing the entire prostate.

So far, so good: Last month, tests showed that he was free of cancer, Murray said.

Because of his age and heart condition, Murray said he was glad he had the choice between freezing his prostate or having major surgery.

"I was in and out of the hospital in less than a day," he said. "I had a problem with incontinence at first, but I was back to normal in a week."

Eight area urologists have begun doing cryosurgery since Dr. Hawatmeh introduced the

procedure here in September 1993. Of the more than 100 men who have had their prostates frozen since then, Dr. Hawatmeh has done 62 of the cryosurgeries.

In the United States, 132,000 cases of prostate cancer were diagnosed last year, and 34,000 men died from it. Missouri reported 3,600 new prostate cancer cases in 1993 — plus 750 deaths from this form of cancer.

Most urologists, here, however, aren't sure that cryosurgery has been tested enough. So they're waiting for more tests to prove that it's effective and safe.

"I think patients should know that when they con-

cer. Prostate cancer is second only to lung cancer in the amount of disease the deaths it causes among males.

In the United States, 132,000 cases of prostate cancer were diagnosed last year, and 34,000 men died from it. Missouri reported 3,600 new prostate cancer cases in 1993 — plus 750 deaths from this form of cancer.

Even though the centre recently bought cryosurgery equipment, doctors there are holding off using it until they are sure it functions properly, he said. Those tests could take three or four months.

Proponents of cryosurgery believe that it will prove as effective as complete surgical removal

of the prostate. They also believe it will result in fewer complications than surgery. It shortens hospital stays and permits patients to return to work sooner than standard surgery, they say.

"But prostatectomy — or surgical removal of the prostate — is still the gold standard in treating prostate cancer," said Dr. Hawatmeh chief of Urology at St. Anthony Medical Centre. The hospital paid about \$500,000 for the equipment to do the freezing procedure.

Most urologists perform prostatectomies only on men whose cancer hasn't

spread from the prostate, Dr. Hawatmeh said. He said he applies the same rule for cryosurgery.

"If cryosurgery works, fine," he said. "But if the cancer returns, we haven't burned our bridges because you still have the options of refreezing the prostate — or offering conventional surgery." He said half his patients get conventional surgery.

Dr. Cohen called the treatment "a viable option" for men who have:

— Reached age 70.

— Had unsuccessful radiation treatments.

— Serious medical problems that make them poor candidates for prostatectomies.

But it will take five to 10 years to tell whether the cryosurgery is curing prostate cancer. Dr. Hawatmeh said — St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Everyday life with a portable heart- machine

By Michèle Biétry

Mechanical pumps, which are partly implanted in the body and partly external, enable those suffering from serious heart disease to wait for a possible human organ. In spite of this great technological achievement, it is still a terrible ordeal for the patients. At Henri Mondor Hospital in Créteil near Paris, which is one of the pioneers in this technique, special importance is given to care provided for patients waiting for a transplant.

PARIS — In his heart surgery department, Professor Daniel Loisance had gathered together people whose lives had been saved thanks to a human heart transplant, but also because a machine had enabled them to wait for a heart to become available. They gathered round Francis, who had been living with a portable artificial half-heart, the left ventricle, for 30 days already. Experience has shown that, in most cases, it is enough to have a pump take over from the left ventricle alone, as this is the one

that is used the most. The pump is implanted in the abdomen and its miniaturised controls are contained in a small case that can be carried over the shoulder. It was at Henri Mondor Hospital that such a device was implanted for the first time in the world, last March. Since then, 23 such devices have been implanted in Europe, and three in the United States. If we limit ourselves to a scientific and medical description, it is difficult to imagine the changes that these impressive machines (artificial hearts today,

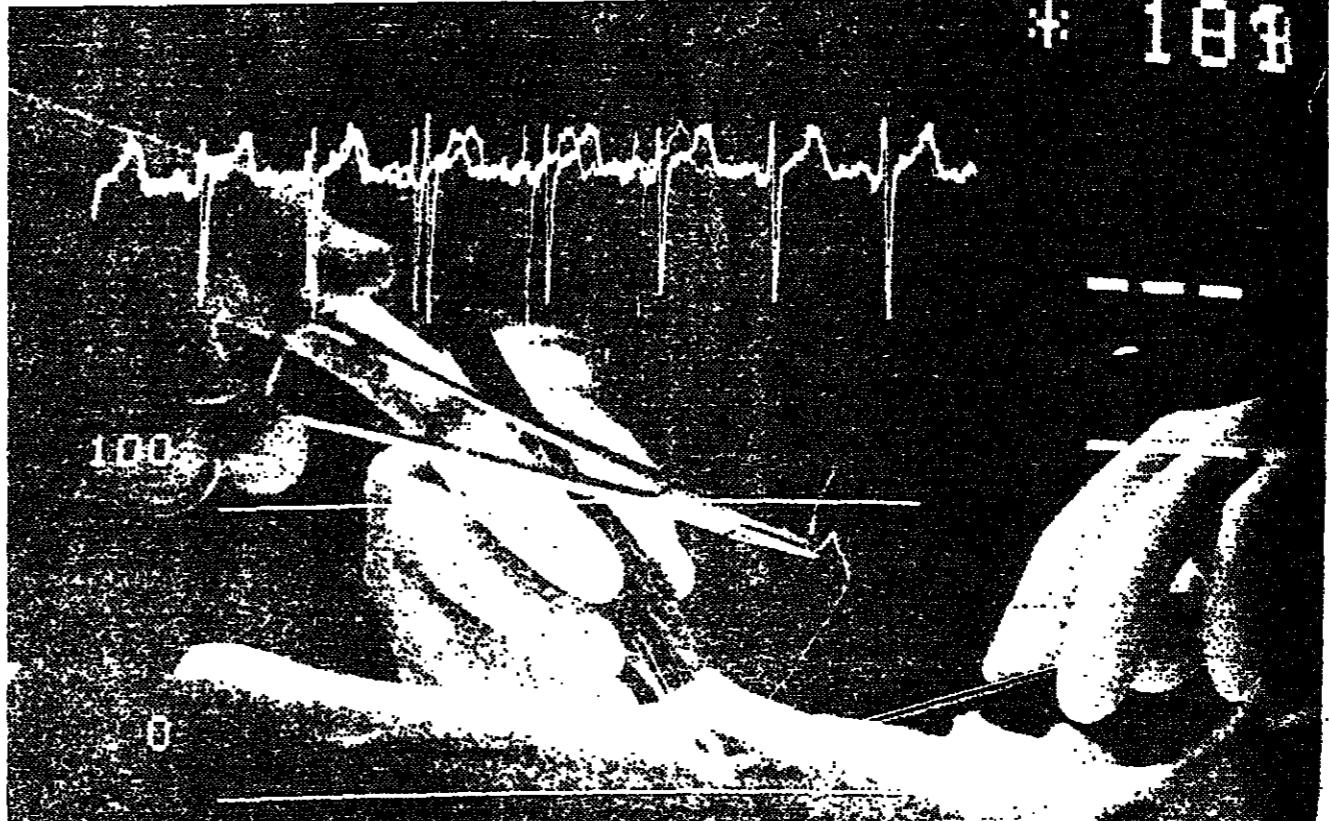
perhaps artificial livers in the near future) contribute to medical science. Although it is sometimes difficult to adapt to having this machine linked up to the human body, some people feel definitely optimistic on seeing Mr. Renaud, a peasant in the centre of France, always ready for a laugh, who was the first man to live for two months with a portable Novacor. He had a heart transplant on May 13, after living with the machine for nearly two months and today he goes about repairing his roof and selling his fir-trees. There was also a young bank manager and Sonia, a light-eyed young girl, who had survived thanks to external ventricles.

They all want to live like normal people now. Yet none of them can forget that suffering and disease are always lonely adventures, that, on several occasions, they wavered between life and death and that, at one time, they refused to go on fighting for their lives.

Sonia's mother had to remain at her bedside to stop her from tearing out the tubes linking her up to her external heart. The young banker remembers how suddenly the disease

had appeared. He thought he had simply had an upset stomach and then he had the shock of learning that his heart had reached the end of the road. The scientific term was *idiopathic cardiomyopathy*, which means that, suddenly, without any apparent reason, the heart dilated and no longer functioned. Then came the time of waiting for a donor with life being lived at a slower and slower pace. They all had a feeling of exclusion, in spite of the love of their families and the warm support of the hospital staff. "I want to forget it now and to live like anybody else", the young banker firmly asserts. He has had no sign of rejection and no visible side effects. The global statistics of failures cannot concern him and it is probably true.

These portable machines mean being able to leave the intensive care unit sooner, moving about in the ward, going down to buy a newspaper or going to the hospital cafeteria. It means more than little joys. It means being able to get back into everyday life faster. Even if it relies on machines using all the resources of knowledge in



Waiting for a heart transplant, the lives of many patients are saved by the mechanical pumps partly implanted in their body

biology, electronics and miniaturisation, medical science cares for human beings and not for computers. Their complete collaboration is needed if they are to live. They have a pump in place of their heart but one can see that a heart is not just a mechanical pump.

The public marvels at the artificial heart which replaces a mythical organ. Specialists expect even more from it. They want it

to save the life of a patient whose condition has deteriorated rapidly and for whom no heart donor is immediately available. But they also want to shorten their stay in the intensive care unit as much as possible as it cuts the patient off from the reality of life. Thus, in the space of a few months, 23 Novacors were implanted in Europe. Two patients died, six still live with their machine and the

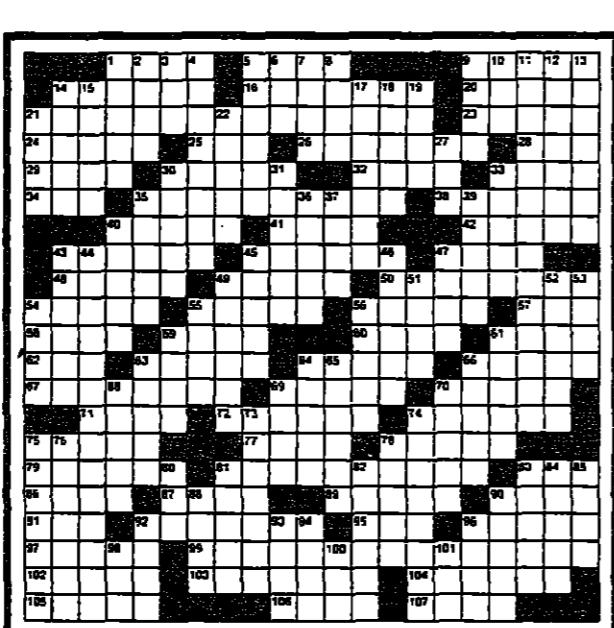
others waited for an average of 50 days before receiving their heart transplants. Two issues were raised as soon as the artificial hearts and total ventricular assistance became operational: Owing to the lack of organs, was priority going to be given to patients on machines? Would the health systems which are on the verge of financial asphyxia be able to bear the cost of these devices? The first tests showed that many patients who were on the brink of death owing to a sudden worsening in their situation were not hopeless cases. Help from the machine is not a desperate last effort. So it is perfectly legitimate for them to be allowed to wait for a transplant.

Industrialists are petrified at the idea of giving the figures which are impressive at first sight. The initial investment goes on training the medical team and this can amount to 350,000 francs for a dozen people if it is carried out in the United States. The computer which operates the ventricle comes to about 540,000 francs and the ventricle itself, which can not be re-used, costs 300,000 francs. The rapid increase in trials in Europe and their favourable results should quickly bring the prices down when more machines become available. Even for large hospitals, it is an important investment. The team at Henri Mondor was only able to start its programme with the help of sponsors, a private association and by taking personal financial risks. But if life has a price, so does death. A person under cardiogenic shock can stay in the intensive care unit for up to 17 days at an estimated cost of 197,000 francs. Leaving the intensive care unit sooner and being given a better chance while waiting for a transplant in a stationary condition are also savings that can be calculated — L'Actualité En France.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

COMING AND GOING
By Harold B. Counts

ACROSS
1. In this manner
5. Red planet
12. Lovers' part
13. One who takes as one's own
14. — (wheel-like)
20. Big, bold
21. Troublesome to
23. Moves idiomatically
24. Dr. —'s patients used to be
25. Grows
26. Big, bold
27. Big, bold
28. Moves idiomatically
29. —'s patients used to be
30. Grows
31. —'s patients used to be
32. Big, bold
33. Troublesome to
34. Songs of swelling
35. Question word
36. Name of the Rio Grande
37. Wear and Murky
38. Share equally
39. Share equally
40. One-segment fruit
41. Song of
42. Song of
43. One-segment fruit
44. Song of
45. Campus figures
46. Long
47. Communication
48. Cut
49. Swiss cheese
50. Swiss cheese
51. Burden
52. French bairns
53. Advantage
54. In the right...
55. As a result...
56. Precious bairns
57. Rich, noble soul
58. Dishes
59. Songs of swelling
60. Question word
61. Name of the Rio Grande
62. Freight
63. Documents
64. Language of the
65. Schools
66. Antlered animals
67. Old heavy
68. Old, worn
69. —'s patients used to be
70. Curved letters
71. French bairns
72. Advantage
73. Rich, noble soul
74. Old, worn
75. Old, worn
76. Marcus de —
77. Marcus de —
78. Ornamental hangings
79. More recent
80. — "so long"
81. — Na Na
82. French bairns
83. Advantage
84. Old, worn
85. Old, worn
86. Marcus de —
87. Marcus de —
88. Old, worn
89. Old, worn
90. Old, worn
91. Old, worn
92. Old, worn
93. Old, worn
94. Old, worn
95. Old, worn
96. Old, worn
97. Old, worn
98. Old, worn
99. Old, worn
100. Sander's creation
101. — is is



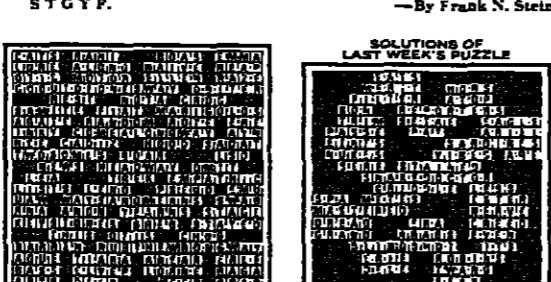
Last Week's Cryptogram

1. Farmer from Arkansas falls in attempt to plant alfalfa in Alaska.
2. Aerodynamic principles say it should be impossible for the bumblebee to fly.
3. Fluorescent lights save voltage and maybe my human energy: bulbs need changing less often.
4. Doc orders powerful cereal for sick patient. He sure knows his oats!

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. DEFENDS REALMS KNSM BETCABSEX
KINISMIX V RRFVS BMEXC DMEAPC HI
CNUNTNNDMIC EX VALUTSIC. — By Ed Huddleston
2. JHBSSAW TCRJ HDYS QLHE KD EBKA
SCWH JKCKCYS CY QHALETAWJ. — By Earl Ireland
3. CV X YAP HANDY ROSTOR NH PSANDY
SANDY UA CUR LANDYR XSO ULOE
FCTCDP UAA LCPLFE AVV ULO LAP. — By Duane H. McGee
4. FACTORY SNAACK LDYO KLYYP RAAGUY
RIPPF RIXXNYE LUPD ANX SUKRIUP
STGYF. — By Frank N. Stein

SOLUTIONS OF
LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE



Diagramless 17 x 17. By Frances Burton

ACROSS
1. Tennis ball
2. Polar bear
3. Big, bold
4. Angles
5. Invites
12. Musical
13. Musical
14. Musical
15. Musical
16. Kitchen utensil
17. Musical
18. Musical
19. Musical
20. Musical
21. Musical
22. Kangaroo kid
23. Leaves out
24. Bluff as —
25. Big, bold
26. Big, bold
27. President Clinton
28. President Clinton
29. Musical
30. Leaves
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34. Musical
35. Musical
36. Musical
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9.

Trace mineral may play role in AIDS development

ATLANTA (AP) — A hypothesis that the AIDS virus slowly depletes the body of the trace mineral selenium, which it uses to erupt into uninfected cells, bolsters the notion that supplements of the nutrient could combat the disease.

The theory by University of Georgia researchers was published in the *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry*. It suggests HIV produces proteins that consume the body's supply of selenium. Although the proteins and the genes that tell them what to do have not been found, scientists are trying to prove their existence.

According to the theory, HIV needs selenium, which preserves the elasticity of body tissue and slows the aging process, to trigger its growth. Once the virus exhausts the selenium in an infected cell, it breaks out in search of more, spreading the infection to new cells.

"This suggests that nutritional status may be a factor in some HIV-positive long-term survivors," Dr. Taylor said.

Although taking selenium supplements may sound odd, Dr. Taylor said it may work to keep the AIDS virus in check.

"It's very exciting work," said Gerhard Schrauzer, a biochemist and proponent of selenium supplements at the University of California at San Diego. "It shows that we must look at all aspects of the virus ... and treatments that could include simple nutritional agents."

It was thought that

AIDS patients had trouble absorbing the figures which are impressive at first sight. The initial investment goes on training the medical team and this can amount to 350,000 francs for a dozen people if it is carried out in

the United States. The computer which operates the ventricle comes to about 540,000 francs and the ventricle itself, which can not be re-used, costs 300,000 francs. The rapid increase in trials in Europe and their favourable results should quickly bring the prices down when more machines become available. Even for large hospitals, it is an important investment.

The team at Henri Mondor was only able to start its programme with the help of sponsors, a private association and by taking personal financial risks. But if life has a price, so does death. A person under cardiogenic shock can stay in the intensive care unit for up to 17 days at an estimated cost of 197,000 francs. Leaving the intensive care unit sooner and being given a better chance while waiting for a transplant in a stationary condition are also savings that can be calculated — L'Actualité En France.

Democracy, security, regional cooperation are pillars of peace — Majali

Premier: King's honesty and openness rallied public support behind progress in Jordanian-Israeli track of negotiations

Following is the full text of the speech Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali delivered at the Los Angeles World Affairs Council Tuesday

It gives me great pleasure to address this august gathering at the kind invitation of your distinguished council. The timing of this invitation comes at a stage in our lives when for the first time a new era of peace is dawning upon our region of the world.

Peace is not an accident of history; it is a systematic and a deliberate process which requires the vision of architects, the mastery of craftsmen and the patience of wise men. Without laying the proper foundations and using the proper materials, we would end with a shaky structure which may not withstand the first serious test. The heritage of war and enmity still looms overhead, and it cannot be erased by euphoric media scenes and warm words and handshakes, in front of clicking cameras. It is a serious business, and each party should present a convincing ledger to its people in order to show them that peace will leave them better off. What we are after in Jordan is a peace that is embodied in a contract among generations vowing not to resort to war, but spend their energies on the creation of a better life for all.

We in Jordan have a dream. We believe in it, and harness our will and resources for its realisation.

Jordan has always been a party to inter-Arab regional arrangements, always fulfilling our duties and responsibilities. So it is even in the most difficult days when our foreign reserves dwindled to pocket scrapping levels, we honoured our foreign obligations. It is with the same dedication that we approach the peace undertaking. We want to honour our obligations, fulfil our duties, reap our benefits and support all of these with unwavering politi-

cal will to ensure its permanence and continuity.

Jordan became a state in 1921 under the Hashemite dynasty with His Highness Prince Abdullah as the head of state. As a Hashemite and a descendant of the Prophet, he brought the new legitimacy. As an inheritor of, and a soldier in the Arab Revolt initiated five years earlier by his father Sharif Hussein Bin Ali, Prince Abdullah opened Jordan further for all Arabs to take part in building an Arab Jordan.

The building of a new country based on the frontier spirit and the ideas of democracy and pluralism was going on with relentless effort. It was not until 1946, after the end of World War II, that Jordan had gained its independence from the British and became the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

The fight of unified people against the dearth of natural endowment is quite an admirable saga. Man-versus-land story in Jordan is one of hard work and tolerance. Until 1948, we had difficulty making ends meet. The war between Arabs and Israelis in 1948 brought a shattering change. Yet, Jordan's military performance managed to save the east part of Jerusalem from occupation. In 1950, the West Bank, or the remaining unoccupied part of Palestine, with the exception of the Gaza was unified with Jordan, as the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. On a sad day, in the summer of 1951, King Abdullah was assassinated in Al Aqsa Mosque, the very place which he had saved three years earlier.

In 1952, King Hussein, 17-year-old young, came to power. He witnessed one shattering shock after the other.

The biggest shock came in 1967 when the June war of that year led to the occupation of the West Bank and the forced movement of (400,000) people to the East Bank. In November of that year, Jordan

actively participated in the drafting of the famous Security Council Resolution 242 from which the current negotiations derive their raison d'être.

The shocks of 1973, 1982 and the second Gulf war of 1991 put Jordan in the eye of the storm. Each war brought with it new waves of migrants to Jordan, thus destabilising the already hard-won balance between people and resources.

This fast survey of Jordan's history is meant to reveal the depth of Jordanian affinity with the Arab-Israeli conflict. We learned the hard way that war meant destruction and loss of human lives. While they consumed resources, wars also brought added human and financial problems. For Jordan, every war meant a new beginning. To have to start a new war once every decade since 1921 has been a very painful experience.

Our ceaseless quest for peace does not derive its strength from purely philosophical tendencies, but from the very depth of life and the will to live it until the last day. Our story in Jordan has been a continuous strife to walk the critical line that separates between survival and decent living, between cold war and regional antagonism, and between war and peace.

338, which called on all parties to the Middle East conflict to resolve their disputes through negotiations. His Majesty called for the convening of an international conference with the participation of the regional parties and the five permanent members of the Security Council. The Geneva conference was convened in the early eighties for a short period, and was eventually disbanded when its promise of an acceptable solution seemed as possible as a blue moon.

After the second Gulf war and the end of the East-West cold war, the need for peace in the Mid-

dle East was viewed as a necessity for the region and the world community as well. The Middle East peace was imperative for the world's comprehensive security, trade flows and oil supplies. Moreover, the Gulf war enhanced the appetite of the U.N. system to activate its peace vision for the resolution of protracted regional problems.

The sponsors of peace in the Middle East, namely the United States and Russia, mounted a campaign to set up a peace-making strategy. It was the Bush administration which spearheaded the effort through the shuttle trips in the region by Mr. Baker and his peace team in the State Department. After eight extensive trips, the Madrid invitation was formulated and in October 1991, Madrid witnessed the inauguration of a peace process. The opening cere-

witness, on the irreversible track leading to ultimate peace.

It is almost three years since the inauguration of the peace negotiations in Madrid. We have covered since that October 1991, date lots of ground, and as Robert Frost would say "there are still miles to go." Progress has been achieved on the Palestinian track.

Progress on the Jordanian track witnessed a slow-down after the signature of the common agenda on Sept. 14, 1993 in Washington, D.C. Such a lull was basically an Israeli decision when they insisted on violating the common agenda insisting that the boundary issue could only be discussed within the framework of a peace treaty. According to the common agenda, the boundary issue was among the items which once resolved would



Dr. Abdul Salam Majali

salem and conversed on the telephone with the president of Israel. These two pioneering actions paved the way for direct telephone linkages and the opening of serious negotiations on the use of air space by civilian flights. We made progress in the bilateral talks earlier this month on issues like trade with the Palestinian territories, tourism, electricity linkages, post and telecommunications, but we are still inching towards the resolution of the substantive issues such as boundaries and water.

The peace that we foresee rests on three main parameters, the first of which is the achievement of democracy and respect for human rights for all the people in the region. Lasting peace is a product of the grassroots and they should fully identify with its gains and pains. The second pillar of peace should be comprehensive security, where all people feel immune and safe from the threat of war, atomic fallout, toxic materials, poverty and joblessness. The third pillar is regional cooperation that is based on compatibility of living standards and meaningful exchange regimes.

We need the regional critical mass where pooling of resources can produce the needed essential goods of water, food and energy and at the same time enable the region to engage in a mutually beneficial exchange with the rest of the world. The spoils of war should be outweighed by the wealth of peace. We cannot continue to squander our resources on wars which breed further wars, hardship and strife. The vicious circle of war leading to poverty and vice versa should be broken and we think the golden opportunity made possible transcend whatever small passions we may have inherited from the legacy of conflict. The time is now. The Middle East should be in the years to come a focal point of attraction for the rest of the world.

Kenyans under age 18, who are barred from receiving contraception services. Illegal abortions are becoming commonplace among teen-agers in the slums of Nairobi, Kenya's capital, said sociologist Shanya Khasiani. "We're burying our heads in the sand," she said. The Population Council wants to lower the age for contraception services to 15. "That would make a significant difference in the fertility rate," the council's Joseph Ndambuki said. But the government is wary of the Roman Catholic church, a powerful local force that opposes even current family-planning programmes.

If all "unmet needs" were met, the Kenyan fertility rate still would probably drop no lower than about four children per woman, a long way from the ultimate goal of two per couple, after which a population eventually stabilises. To get there, Kenya — and dozens of other developing nations — must undergo a revolution in education, and in giving women greater economic roles and security, and more say over reproduction.

The Cairo conference will address such themes: big boosts in foreign aid for family planning, dealing with religious objections, helping women.

But in country after country, a still greater force is limiting family sizes.

At a clinic here in the coffee country north of Nairobi, Tabitha Wanjohi, 30, explained in homely terms why she'll have no more. "Four is enough," she said, and they laughed. "Nowadays, with inflation, you have to take care. Otherwise, they can go naked and hungry."

Poverty, overcrowding, hard times are combining to slow down the species in many places, including in the planet's most densely populated land, in far-off South Asia.

Germans wonder about secret of Kohl's success

By Tom Heneghan
Reuter

what the average German thinks.

"He knows better than we do what people think," she said in a recent television discussion analysing the Kohl phenomenon.

"We have a contest to guess in advance the annual result we'll get for one question we ask every month. He played along for three years and won all three years in a row."

For management consultant Gertrud Hoehler, Mr. Kohl's rambling speaking style and apparent reliance on "gut feelings" about policies hide a far more systematic approach to power.

"A lot of what Kohl does is attributed to a 'sixth sense' because, like all leaders, he reveals little about how much he really knows," she said. "He has a very good memory and an unusually perfected network of contacts."

His clumsy movements and provincial accent, often the butt of intellectuals' jokes, reassure average Germans.

"Kohl is not a media personality, he's a throw-back, a dinosaur, one of the last of the great non-communicators," remarked Helmut Markwort, editor-in-chief of Focus magazine.

"He's like a lot of his voters in the way he eats and the fact he has gone to the same place for holidays for the past 25 years. He's one of millions, just more determined. They don't love him but they trust him."

Behind the reassuring image, Mr. Kohl ranks as one of Germany's best when it comes to cutting deals, pulling strings and mercilessly freezing out rivals within his party.

His skill in finding loyal staff was such an established fact that one spectacular flop — his failure last year to make arch-



Helmut Kohl

conservative Steffen Heitmann Germany's next president — unleashed weeks of speculation about a supposed "twilight of the chancellor" and his impending defeat at the polls.

Mr. Kohl's power base is his Christian Democratic Union (CDU), the Conservative Party he has headed for 21 years and turned into a dense network of allies and proteges.

Convinced the economy was coming out of recession, Mr. Kohl delivered a fighting speech at a congress in February that helped turn the CDU's mood from deep gloom to optimism.

Like in 1989, when the fall of the Berlin Wall unex-

pectedly handed him the opportunity to unite Germany. Mr. Kohl has also been blessed this year with a good portion of luck.

His campaign has marched ahead with hardly a hitch while Mr. Schärfing, a colourless moderate who wanted to steal votes from the centre, committed several tactical gaffs and then shifted back towards a left-wing alliance.

Mr. Schärfing's Clinton-style campaign for change, conceived last year when Mr. Kohl's standing was low and unemployment was high, may have been perfect for 1993. It looks out of step with the economic recovery and restored confidence in 1994.

Basic resources... are being depleted and environmental pollution is intensifying, driven by the unprecedented growth in human numbers." The world's

By Charles J. Hanley
The Associated Press

NJOGU-INI, Kenya — In misty green African highlands not far from where prehistoric man got his start, modern man may be getting a sneak preview of his end.

Ragged and weary Kenyan peasants, swinging hoes, scattering seed, are trying to grow corn along the shoulders of a road, on pitiful, arms-width strips of rocky earth they hope can feed their families.

There's too little good land in Kenya and too many babies.

"Seven or eight are usual, and some women have been having 15 children," reports local nurse Ruth Waihenya.

Ms. Waihenya has helped obtain the first regular supplies of contraceptives and family-planning advice for this mountain hamlet. Now the women talk about limiting their babies to three or four.

Multiply Njogu-Ini by thousands of dirt-poor villages and hundreds of jam-packed cities across the globe, and you have some sense of the grim — and accelerating — arithmetic facing delegates to next week's International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo.

The numbers can be startling:

— By doubling since the mid-1950s, human population has grown more in just the past two generations than in all of man's previous years on Earth put together.

— Despite gains made by aggressive birth-control programmes in China and elsewhere, world population, now at 5.7 billion, could explode to 12.5 billion by the middle of the next century.

— Africa's population, the planet's fastest-growing, is projected to leap from 700 million to 1.1 billion in the next 16 years.

— Basic resources... are being depleted and environmental pollution is intensifying, driven by the unprecedented growth in human numbers." The world's

Four babies per second swell world population — Africa in lead

nations warn in the draft "programme of action" readied for Cairo.

The woman who heads the U.N. Population Fund says the 1990s are a crucial decade because huge numbers of females, babies of the fertile '70s and '80s, will be in their own child-bearing years.

"Actions of today and consistent action over the next 10 years can change the course and level at which populations can stabilise in the whole world," Nans Sadiq said in New York.

Some specialists, seeing what can be done in places like Kenya, are hopeful.

Just a decade ago, this country led the world in human fertility. The average woman was bearing eight children. Then the national government, with U.S. and other aid money, began a crash programme.

Health workers were trained in contraceptive methods. Trucks took to Kenya's roads carrying boxes of contraceptives to distant clinics. Family-planning agents went door to door. Today, \$2 million in U.S. aid is spent each year just on condoms for Kenya.

But even Kenya has a long way to go.

Surveys suggest an additional one-third of Kenyan women want to limit family size, but are not using contraceptives. Getting services to them will require more aid money and greater efforts to overcome male resistance and cultural and religious taboos.

This "unmet need" may be most pressing among

Economy

Israel's economy seen heading for lower growth

By John West
Reuter

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — After four years of boom, Israel's economy has overheated and is headed for lower growth and tighter monetary policies, businessmen and analysts say.

In the last two weeks, a proposed tax on the stock market which sent share prices plummeting and a hefty rise in interest rates have ruined the party atmosphere which started with a huge influx of Russian Jews in 1990.

Analysts say that immigration led annual growth rates to around six per cent over the last four years, above the average in the industrial democracies Israel aspires to join.

But now inflation has reared its ugly head, doubling so far this year to 14 per cent. Monetary hawks appear to have won over most of the government to the view that it must be dealt with now to prevent a return of the hyperinflation of the 1980s.

Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel hinted as such when he said Monday's interest rate rise was only the first of a series of austerity measures.

"It was stated in as clear terms as possible by the Prime Minister and the cabinet this week they want to see the fight against inflation raised to a very high priority," he told Reuters in an interview.

"I therefore feel rather more confident now that our policies will receive the broader backing of the rest of the economy," he added.

Most analysts predict economic growth over the next two years will drop to four per cent.

The Bank of Israel and the

treasury will present more proposals to the cabinet on Sunday on how to rein in inflation.

Economists believe these will include controls to cap a series of astronomical salary rises in the public sector this year, and perhaps new regulations to stem a flood of easy credit with which Israel's private sector has fuelled a spending spree.

"These things just do not go hand in hand with single digit inflation," said Jonathan Katz, chief economist at Capital Holdings. "Unemployment is so low there is already a shortage of manpower in some industries."

Mr. Frenkel said the new 14 per cent rate, a 30-month high, was meant primarily to stop inflation rising further before bringing it below 10 per cent late next year. Economists do not rule out further rate rises.

So far, nobody is talking about actual recession.

But Israel's economy has traditionally been more susceptible than most to public confidence.

The announcement last week that the government planned to tax share profits sent the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange's index down 10 per cent in a day. It has since recovered most of the loss but traders predict turbulence in the coming months.

"There was no issuing of new bonds, nobody has got money from the public," said Zvi Amit, managing director of Israel's Chambers of Commerce, criticising the new capital gains tax.

Mr. Katz says the limping privatisation process could suffer. Even when the market was higher, the government delayed selling public assets to get a good price and has only reached about 15 per cent of its \$4.6 billion target.

Amendments to income tax law give exemptions to individuals

By Samir Shafiq
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Income Tax Department Director-General Mansour Haddadin told the Jordan Times Wednesday that amendments to the income tax law are still being debated and that what is being published in the Arabic newspapers are only thoughts and proposals that are not final.

"We (the panel) expect to ready the amendments by a

time parliament reconvenes... after approximately two months," Mr. Haddadin said.

According to news carried in the Arabic press, the amendments include:

A) Excluding the income generated from leasing agricultural land, livestock and poultry farms as well as beehives from any exemption from income tax.

B) Subjecting profits of reinsurance companies to a

fixed tax.

C) Subjecting profits from land and real estate trading to the income tax.

D) Subjecting profits generated by companies from share trading to the income tax.

E) Exempting the interest on treasury bills, development bonds and corporate bonds earned by individuals from the income tax.

F) Excluding banks and financial institutions from inter-bank interest earned.

G) Deducting marketing expenses, research and development expenditures from the tax bracket.

H) Exempting not more than JD 2,000 in annual rent or interest paid for a housing loan.

I) Exempting JD 1,200 annual income for a married person and JD 800 for a single one.

J) Exempting 50 per cent of salaries, allowances and increments on condition that

the exempted amount does not exceed JD 3,600 per annum.

K) Exempting dividends and allocation profits which companies distribute to individuals.

L) Exempting a family head of JD 400 of his annual salary for every child or dependent, up to a maximum of

six.

M) Scrapping the university education exemption due to the difficulties encountered in its consideration.

N) Exempting medical expenses incurred inside or outside the Kingdom as a result of undergoing an operation or treatment for an incurable illness.

Commercial diplomacy pays off for U.S. firms

SHANGHAI (R) — U.S. Commerce Secretary Ron Brown's aggressive trade tactics are fuelling press criticism back home even as "commercial diplomacy" helps win corporate America billions of dollars in new Chinese business.

From lobbying the Chinese premier to packaging attractive financing, Mr. Brown is mobilising the might of government to help propel the U.S. private sector to the front of the contracts queue.

In just four days he has announced more than \$5 billion worth of deals, of which at least \$2 billion has a direct U.S. content.

"To my knowledge this is

the largest number of contracts in terms of value that have ever been signed or completed during a business mission," Mr. Brown said Wednesday.

Yet the tactics are drawing some criticism.

Some say human rights have vanished off the U.S. agenda in, the name of profits. Others accuse Mr. Brown of degrading the United States and its president by using his good offices to conduct business.

The Wall Street Journal accused Mr. Brown of "commercial opportunism."

The New York Times said

his strategy mirrors "constructive engagement," the Reagan administration's fancy title for conducting business as usual in South Africa.

Mr. Brown insists he has been "dignified... diplomatic" in his dual role here as salesman-statesman. "I would be derelict in my duty if I was not a strong and, hopefully, effective advocate," he said.

Advocacy is not new — the Europeans are considered experts — but the U.S. offensive is a marked shift from 12 years of Republican rule which largely shunned such tactics as big, bad government.

President George Bush's

one major foray, a mission to Tokyo with the big three car chiefs, culminated in an unfortunate bout of stomach problems at a state dinner.

To the 24 executives

travelling with Mr. Brown, the Democratic offensive is therefore manna from heaven.

Ron Brown is a do-er,"

said Jimmy Treybig, head of Tandem Computer, which sealed a new Chinese joint venture. "Republican or Democrat, everyone on the trip is very excited because commerce is a thousand times better than at any time

ago."

In short, anything that delivers a competitive edge.

In talks this week with Chinese Premier Li Peng, Mr. Brown not only pursued the general bilateral agenda, he also made specific pitches for two leading U.S. corporations, said people at the meeting.

Rouble falls to new low

MOSCOW (R) — The rouble dropped by two per cent against the U.S. dollar to a new all-time low Wednesday after apparently defying gravity for more than a week.

Dealers cited a variety of factors to explain the 44-point fall to 2,197 on the Moscow Interbank Currency Exchange (MICEX) from 2,153 Tuesday.

Immediately after the session, the rouble fell even lower, to 2,205-207, on the interbank market. But it later recovered to 2,184-7 on expectations that the central bank would intervene to prop up the Russian currency.

"Everybody expects the central bank to repeat the scenario of the two previous weeks," said a trader at a big Moscow bank who declined to be named.

The rouble has been through a somewhat turbulent fortnight.

The market had been expecting a sharp fall at the beginning of last week. But the currency defied expectations, rising from the previous MICEX low of 2,171 to 2,151 a week later.

Traders said then that the rouble's recovery had been due to huge central bank intervention.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Take time to clean up any misunderstandings with associates and increase harmony. Ease tensions at home which could be quite stressful.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) A health defect can be alleviated or done away with altogether by taking the right treatments now. Be wise in your endeavours.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Daytime hours are best for putting some latent talent to work and making headway with it. Be more active and cheerful in your activities.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You know how to add to present income, so get busy and do so. Be sure business affairs are running smoothly and to your satisfaction.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Study important papers carefully so that you truly understand their content. Don't leave yourself wide open for trouble which could be pragmatic.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 21) Be more cooperative with those you are dealing with and get fine results. Avoid unnecessary expenditures of money which is in short supply.

LIBRA: (September 22 to October 21) Make long-range plans which could give you added security in the future. Use practical sense in all your business dealings with experts.

SCORPIO: (October 22 to November 21) Obtain the data you need to advance in career activities. Get rid of small tasks which impede your progress. Use car in motion today.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Find better ways of gaining personal aims and they are soon yours. The evening can be happily shared with your close friends.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) An outside matter could be troublesome, but you can solve it nicely by being more objective. Show that you are sincere.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Know your true position in financial arrangements and make plans for improvement. Establish more order around you for the future.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Plan ways of improving regular routines. Care in motion must be exercised now to avoid possible accidents while on the highway.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 1994

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Study the best way to carry through with any agreements you have made to insure getting the best results. Find a more up to date system for handling your obligations and gaining more efficiency.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Engage in civic work you enjoy and accomplish a great deal. Take it easy tonight and restore lagging energies for the weekend.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Find the right way to advance in your line of endeavour. A financial expert can give advice for a plan you have in mind for your success.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Be clever and you relieve tensions easily and then you can carry through with regular duties intelligently you have planned to complete.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Plan how to gain more respect and prestige in the outside world. Show increased devotion to your loved ones in your house.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Schedule your time and activities well so that you can accomplish more. Enjoy a fine social activity in the evening which is pleasing.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 21) If you get your tasks done well and quickly, you can have more time later for the recreational activities you desire.

LIBRA: (September 22 to October 21) Find the best way to improve conditions at home and be more diplomatic with family members. Take health treatments for your appearance.

SCORPIO: (October 22 to November 21) Make the changes now which will help you get ahead faster in your career. Be more supportive of family members within your house.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Find a better way of handling finances and you can add to your present assets. Strive to be more efficient in your activities.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Get busy and gain your most cherished aims. An intuitive prompting could be erroneous now, so don't follow it.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Handle those practical affairs with skill and accomplish a great deal today. Take no risks in money matters which could be disastrous.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Joining with friends in discussing mutual problems can be helpful in solving them. Handle communications wisely and you could get ahead.

Birthstone of September: Sapphire — Lapis Lazuli

THE BETTER HALF

By Glasbergen
GLASBERGEN



"I don't expect you to be cheerful 24 hours a day. Just act excited like a poodle whenever I enter the room!"

JUMBLE

by Henri Arnold

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

VARAL

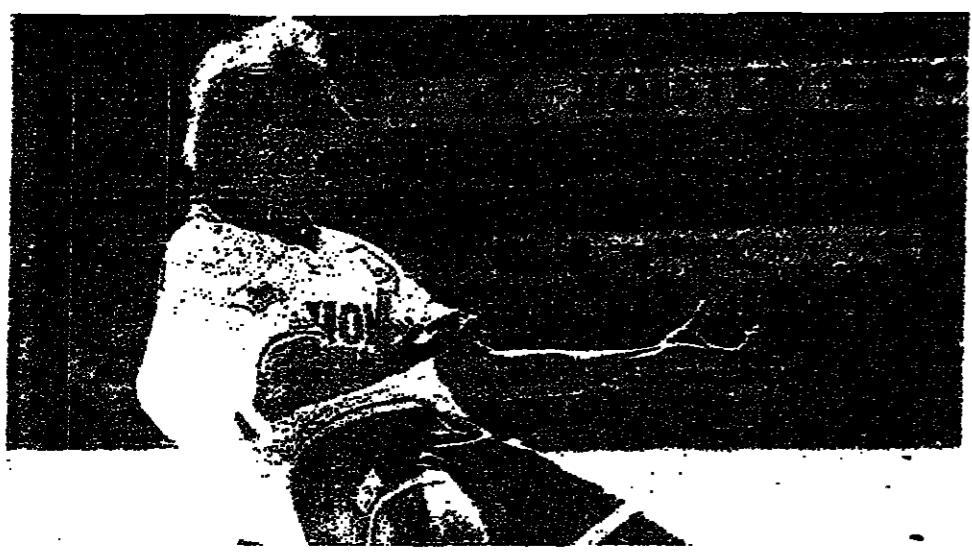
EFING

HOKERS

YURNEP

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer:



Jurgen Klinsmann

Klinsmann leads Tottenham to victory over Ipswich

LONDON (AP) — Tottenham swept its way into the credit Tuesday as Jurgen Klinsmann continued his superb start to life in the English Premier League, scoring twice in Spurs' 3-1 win over Ipswich.

The German striker followed off-season signings, Romania's Ilie Dumitrescu netted his first goal for Spurs as the £4.6 million (36.9 million) Tottenham team that is paying dividends.

Tottenham oozed class and confidence in a blistering first half and Dumitrescu and Darren Anderton also hit the bar as Spurs' 3-0 half-time lead could easily have been 5-0.

The north London club is to have six points deducted by the Football Association (FA) at the end of the season for past financial irregularities, but has now had three wins from four matches to take it to nine points.

Even with the punishment, on three points Spurs would be mid-table, seven points from leader Nottingham Forest and showing the form which could lift it much further.

Forest took over at the head of the standings with a 2-1 win over Everton to give it three wins and a tie from four matches.

In Tuesday's other Premier League match, Leeds beat Crystal Palace 2-1.

Klinsmann began the move which finished for Spurs to take the lead on the 15 minute mark with a pass to Nick Barmby, who found Tedy Sheringham. The England striker rolled the ball low across goal and Klinsmann dived forward to whip it into the roof of the net.

Another fluent move involving Anderton, Barmby and Klinsmann ended with Dumitrescu diving forward to head home the German's cross after 28 minutes.

Then Anderton's 38th-minute corner was headed on by Stuart Nethercott and Klinsmann pounced to force the ball in.

Cans Kwon-yu sparked late Ipswich rally when he punished a defensive error to make it 3-1.

A superb overhead kick by

Colin Cooper lifted Forest to the top of the standings with a 61st minute goal to give it an unassailable 2-0 lead.

Forest went ahead through an own goal by Andy Hincliffe in the 24th minute.

Paul Rideout gave Everton hope when he headed in Vicky Samways' precise cross after 68 minutes.

Teenager Noel Whelan scored his third goal in three games as Leeds inflicted the second home defeat of the season on Crystal Palace.

Whelan, 19, was on the spot to nod the ball over the line for the 63rd minute winner.

Dean Gordon equalised 10 minutes after the break for Palace after David White had put Leeds ahead after 17 minutes.

In division one, Graham Taylor's Wolverhampton lost 2-1 to Watford and promoted Reading had a massive 4-0 win over Stoke City. Sean McCarthy scored three goals in 16 minutes as Oldham moved to the top of the standings with a 3-1 win over Notts County.

Shocked Schumacher loses appeal against 2-race ban

PARIS (AFP) — World champion leader Michael Schumacher said he was "shocked and disappointed" here Tuesday after his appeal against a two-race ban for disobeying a black flag during the Silverstone race.

The German was attempting to reverse his disqualification from the British Grand Prix July 10 and a further two-race ban for disobeying a black flag during the Silverstone race.

The Federation Internationale de l'Automobile's (FIA) court of appeal decided to uphold the ban imposed by its World Council July 26.

The court rejected Schumacher's explanation that he misunderstood the meaning of the black flag, believing it signified a five-second penalty and not an order to carry number five, his Benetton-Ford, to come into the pits.

Schumacher will miss the next two Grand Prix, the Italian at Monza Sept. 11 and the Portuguese, at Estoril Sept. 25.

In a statement the Benetton team said it was "disappointed" at the decision.

Though admitting mistakes were made, it said "the penalty was too harsh."

The team said Finland's JJ Lehto would replace Schumacher in his two-race absence.

"We will now concentrate on the next two Grand Prix."

Benetton team managing director Flavio Briatore said, "while we look forward in Michael's return at Jerez to continue his pursuit of the World Championship title."

Schumacher appeared to be on the edge of tears and had difficulty controlling his voice when he told journalists afterwards he was "shocked and disappointed", and had not discussed the matter with his team because he needed time to absorb the decision.

Asked whether he intended to complete the season, he said: "I will not make any decisions right now. I need a few days to think about a lot of things and when it is time to make a decision I will let you know. But for the moment nothing has changed for me."

Two days ago the German was disqualified five hours after celebrating his victory in the Belgian Grand Prix, his eighth this season, and the race was awarded to his championship rival Damon Hill of Britain.

Race stewards ruled that

Schumacher's Benetton-Ford was illegal because a compulsory wooden block under the car had been paired down. The shallower front of the wooden block could theoretically improve cornering.

Schumacher, 24, in his third Grand Prix season, has won seven races and leads Hill by 21 points. That could

change dramatically and

Williams driver Hill could move within one point of the leader over the next two races.

The German driver said he had been given time to make the points to the appeal court judges, adding: "I leave it to you to decide if their decision was right."

Asked how the world championship would now develop, he said, "I don't know, we will see."

He had been scheduled to

conduct tests of his Benetton

over the next few days but

said he did not know if he

would now take part.

He defended his victory in

Belgium, saying that he believed he had effectively won

the race in the opening laps

when the controversial

wooden underbody plate was

definitely of legal dimen-

sions.

The German had domin-

ated the race, leading for all

but one of the 44 laps

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The shallower front of the

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Asked how the world

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Sports



Britain's 110-m hurdles star Colin Jackson (left) and U.S. long jumper Mike Powell smile as they pose with a pile of chocolate in the gold-bar shape at the end of the Berlin athletics meet Tuesday (AFP photo).

Jackson and Powell share the gold jackpot

By boxing legend Mohammad Ali to receive a "fighter of the century" award, a agency reported. The three-time champion is scheduled to visit homes

Wednesday by winning their events at the ISTAF track and field meet.

Jackson ran the fastest 110-metre hurdles of the season, while Powell won the long jump by soaring 8.2 metres to

claim the richest prize in track and field.

Jackson, the world champion and the world record holder from Britain, was

clocked in 13.02 seconds, the fastest in the world this year after the 13.04 that he ran at the European championships in Helsinki earlier this month.

He was challenged all the way by Mark Crear, but had enough power to finish half a step ahead of the American, who clocked 13.07.

"I didn't see him the whole race. I never look behind," Jackson said. "The gold was not that important. I wanted to have a good race."

Mark McCoy, the Olympic champion formerly of Canada who now competed for Australia, finished third in 13.29.

Americans Dennis Mitchell and Jon Drummond finished 1-2 in the 100-metres, edging Olympic and world champion Linford Christie of Britain.

The three sprinters were running side by side halfway into the race, but the Americans pulled away in the final metres.

Mitchell, who has beaten Christie before, clocked 10 seconds flat, while Drummond, twice winner over Christie this season, finished

in 10.01. Christie had to settle for third in 10.02.

"You win some, you lose some," Christie said. "If I won everything this year it would be boring."

"I don't like to say things like that, but yes, it's been a long season," Christie said when asked if he was tired.

He and Jackson arrived here after wins at the Commonwealth Games in Canada.

"In the middle where I surge and pull away from those guys, it didn't happen. I was tight and my string was off," Christie said.

Mitchell said he experienced some problems in his knee and could not post a faster time despite what he called "one of my best starts."

"I'm not where I want to be. I want to be running 9.9, not just a 10.0," Mitchell said.

Crear ran his third personal best in a row. "I wanted to win. Colin has been undefeated all year and I wanted him to taste second place."

"I have respect for him," said Crear, whose personal best coming into the season was 13.26.

The ISTAF was the last leg of the Golden Four, the track meets in Oslo, Zurich, Brussels and Berlin, which combine to offer the biggest prize in track and field, worth about \$285,000.

Graf wins, McNeil loses at U.S. Open

NEW YORK (AP) — What a difference a Grand Slam makes.

At Wimbledon in June, veteran Lori McNeil pulled off the biggest upset of the year when she ousted defending champion Steffi Graf in a first-round match.

At the U.S. Open Tuesday, Graf, the defending champion, sped past her opening-round foe, while McNeil, a Wimbledon semifinalist, fell to Anna Smashnova, playing in only her fourth Grand Slam tournament — all this year.

Graf, top-seeded in the 128-player women's field but troubled by an aching back, needed only 45 minutes to oust 19-year-old Californian Anne Mail, making her debut at the National Tennis Centre, 6-2, 6-1.

Smashnova, who had to go through qualifying to gain the main draw at the Australian Open in January, shocked McNeil, who is 13th-seeded, 6-2, 6-4.

Fifth-seeded Kimiko Date easily won her first-round match, beating fellow Japanese Rika Hiraki 6-0, 6-2; No. 8 Gabriela Sabatini, the 1990 U.S. Open winner, defeated Larisa Neiand 6-0, 6-1 and no. 14 Anke Huber stopped Irina Spirites of Romania 6-4, 6-2.

Stefan Edberg, twice the men's champion and seeded fifth, brushed past his first-round opponent, defeating fellow Swede Lars Jonsson 7-5, 6-1, 6-1. Another former champion from Sweden, Mats Wilander, fell to Frenchman Guy Forget 7-5, 6-1, 6-4.

Graf said her back began hurting her during a tournament in San Diego, "and it got real bad during Montreal. The pain was very strong there."

She said only rest will cure her problem, but refused to say when she would be able to do that with her busy schedule.

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She was not that long ago, 1989 to be exact, when Graf and fellow German Boris Becker sat atop the world of tennis, having won both Wimbledon and the U.S. Open. Only Graf has a chance to win here this year.

Becker could only come up with a long list of excuses after losing to Richey Renegar, a player more accustomed to success in doubles than singles.

On opening day, which didn't end until shortly after 12:30 a.m. Tuesday, Becker and several other seeded players were knocked out of the year's final Grand Slam tournament.

"They made the court extremely slow this year, especially centre court and the grandstand, and they changed the balls," Becker moaned. "They made them very heavy and very soft, and that is very bad for my game."

What was worst for his game was the play of Renegar.

"Basically the fifth set was the best set I've ever played in my life," Renegar said after upsetting the seventh-seeded Becker 6-1, 6-4, 4-6, 1-6, 7-6 (7-5). "I had nothing to lose. I could go for my shots."

"There was no way I could play any better. I was making just about everything."

It took six match points, but Renegar finally prevailed. The winning point coming on a smash that sent the winner's arms skyward and Becker packing.

But he wasn't the only one ousted.

Markus Zoelcke of Germany ousted No. 2 Goran Ivanisevic 6-2, 7-5, 6-2; No. 8 Gabriela Sabatini, the 1990 U.S. Open winner, defeated Larisa Neiand 6-0, 6-1 and no. 14 Anke Huber stopped Irina Spirites of Romania 6-4, 6-2.

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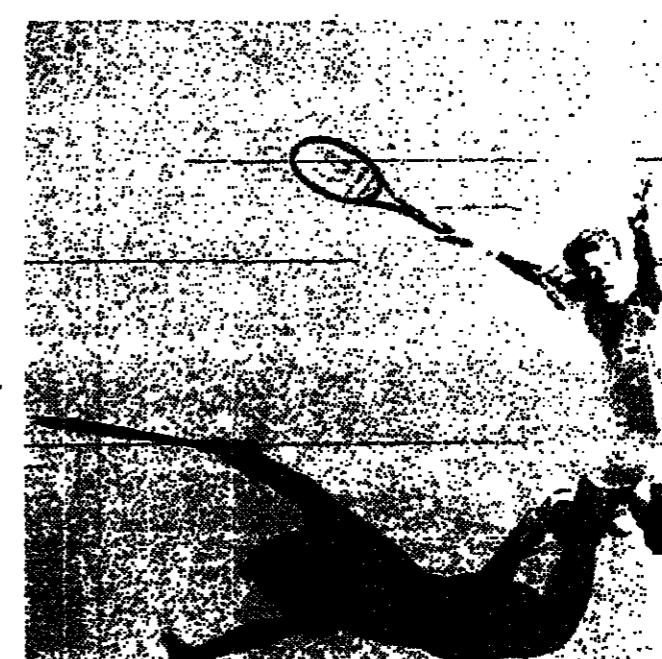
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Sweden's Stefan Edberg serves against fellow countryman Lars Jonsson Tuesday during their first-round match at the U.S. Open (AP photo)

McEnroe puts his head on the line at U.S. Open

NEW YORK (AP) — When Richard Krajicek was up 6-0 in the fourth-set tiebreak —

meaning six match points for Krajicek over fellow Dutchman Jan Siemerink — USA Network commentator John McEnroe put his head on the line.

"If he comes back from here I'll stand on my head during the Courier-Krickstein match. I'll call it upside down," McEnroe said.

McEnroe's tennis talents are well documented. Now he was about to test his gymnastic abilities.

Krajicek, who eventually won the first-round match 7-6 (7-2), 6-4, 6-7 (2-7), 6-7 (8-10), 6-4 in 3 hours, 41 minutes, squandered seven match points in the fourth-set tiebreak.

When Krajicek had his seventh match point in the fourth set, McEnroe put aside his supposedly impartial journalistic ethics, stating, "I don't know who wants this more, Richard or me."

After Krajicek lost the fourth set, McEnroe's sidekick, British announcer David Mercer, started to needle McEnroe about his upcoming headstand stint.

McEnroe tried to hedge his bet, insisting that when he said "this" he meant Krajicek winning the match, but not necessarily in that exciting fourth-set tiebreak.

Playing for pleasure: Losing in the first round of the U.S. Open hasn't discouraged Mats Wilander from wanting to play tennis.

"I wanted to play this whole year and I want to play all next year," Wilander said.

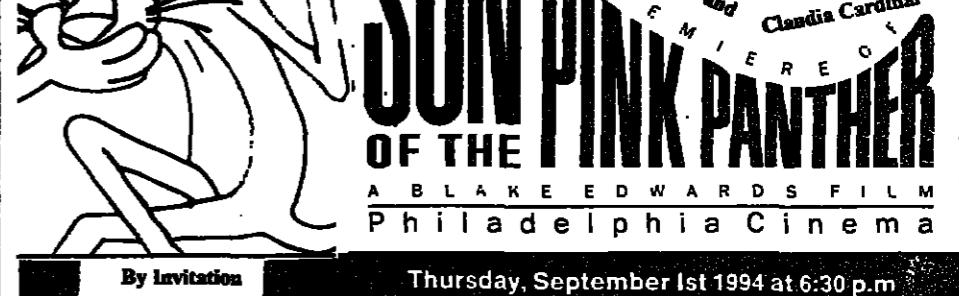
"That's a long time for me right now to decide that I really want to play another year."

Wilander, the U.S. Open champion in 1988, a year when he attained the No. 1 ranking, is currently enthused about tennis. But after reaching the apex, Wilander finds himself at crossroads — the top player in the world without a strong desire to play.

But in April 1993, after a 2½-year sabbatical, Wilander had a resurgence of interest. The 30-year-old Swede, who lives in Greenwich, Conn., with his wife Sonya, daughter Emma and a new baby due any day, has had some encouraging results this year, reaching the round of 16 at the Australian Open.

Wilander says he's making a comeback because of "psychological reasons" and is just trying to enjoy himself.

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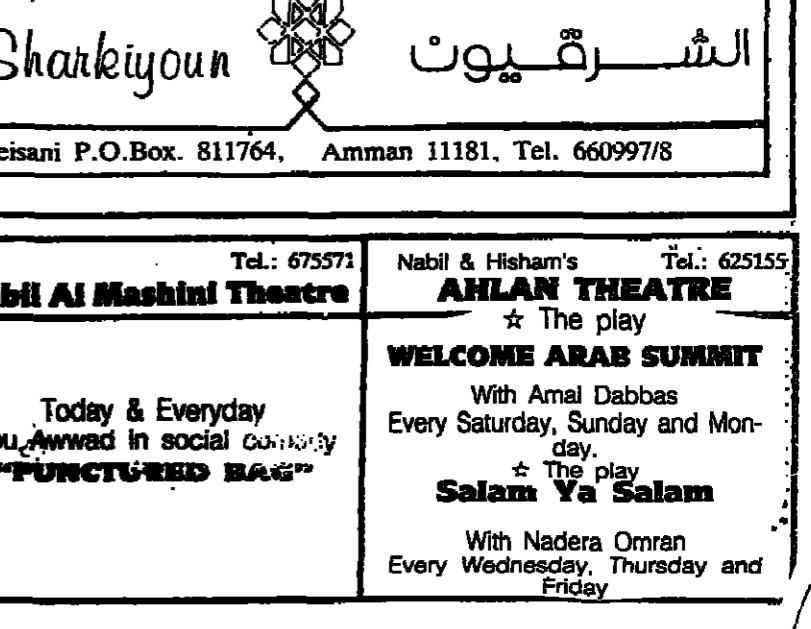
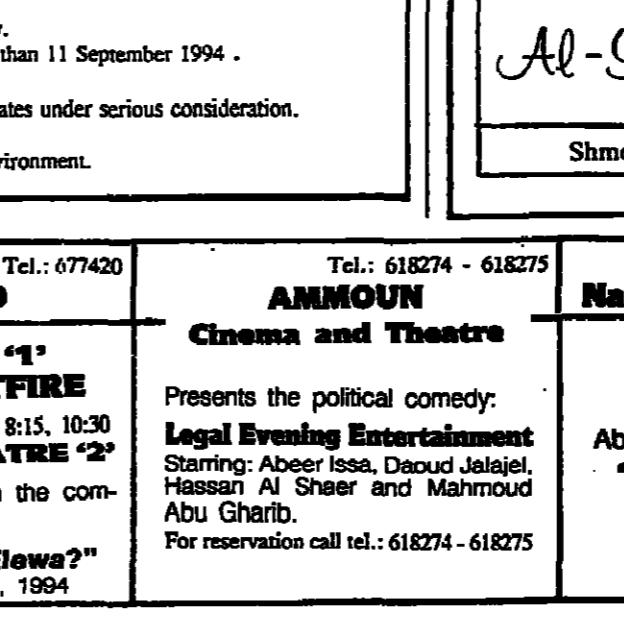
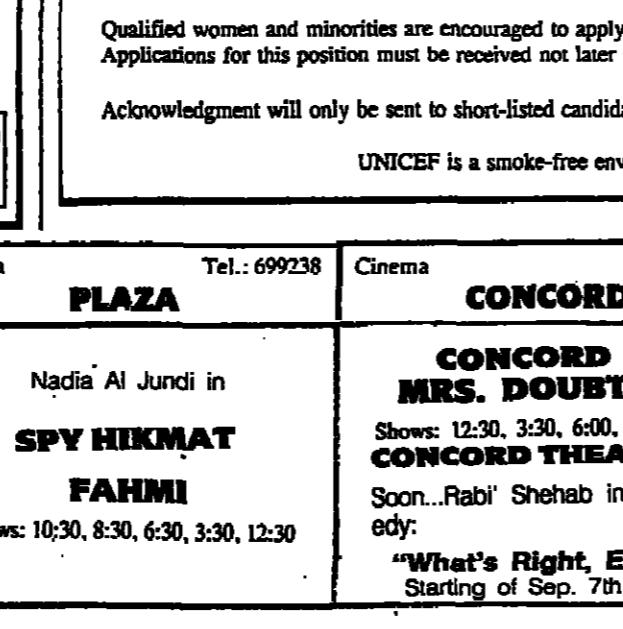
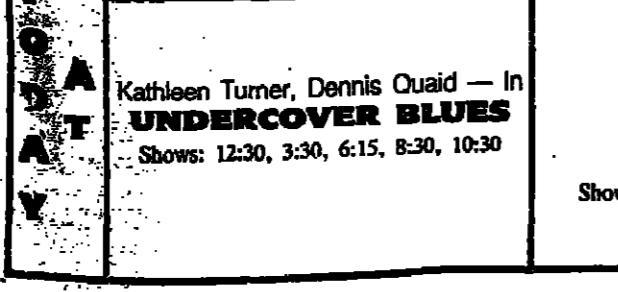
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Kuwaiti official dismisses Iraqi overtures

KUWAIT (AP) — Parliament Speaker Ahmed Al Sadaoun has dismissed recent Iraqi overtures for reconciliation with the emirate as desperate attempt to end an embargo slapped on Iraq four years ago after it invaded Kuwait. Mr. Sadaoun was quoted Wednesday in the daily Al Watan as saying the Saddam Hussein's regime was "trying to misguide the international community and get around international obligations" by suggesting it was ready to recognise Kuwait's sovereignty. Kuwait has said it would press to keep international sanctions in place until Baghdad complied with U.N. Security Council resolutions, especially those calling on Iraq to recognise Kuwait's sovereignty, endorse a new border drawn after the 1991 Gulf war and release some 620 war prisoners. Kuwaiti newspapers splashed on their front pages news from Cairo that Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has received an Iraqi envoy with a message from Saddam that he was willing to comply with these resolutions and hold "reconciliation meetings" in the Egyptian capital. Al Watan echoed Egyptian press reports that Mr. Mubarak and United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan were trying to restore relations between Iraq and Gulf Arab states. The Kuwaiti foreign ministry declined comment on the report, but the parliament speaker said that while Kuwait "appreciated and welcomed such efforts, it was not willing to accept anything less than full compliance with all U.N. resolutions. The United Nations will decide next month whether to extend or lift the curbs that ban most dealings with Iraq.

Britain to bar Algerian Islamic leader

LONDON (AFP) — Britain will bar a leader of Algeria's outlawed Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) from giving a lecture here in order not to upset France, which backs the Algerian government, the Guardian reported Wednesday. Quoting British government sources, the daily said that "to avoid an Anglo-French row the authorities intend to refuse a visa to Anwar Haddam on grounds of his alleged support for terrorism." Mr. Haddam, a FIS representative for Europe and the United States, has been invited to lecture on his movement's view of the Algerian crisis to the Royal Institute of International Affairs on Sept. 21. Interviewed by the Guardian from Washington, Mr. Haddam repeated demands that he had joined the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), the most hardline of the Islamic militants battling the military-backed government in Algiers.

Missing Finns reported freed by Kurdish rebels

ANKARA (R) — Two Finnish tourists, abducted on Aug. 6 by Kurdish guerrillas, have been released, a newspaper close to the separatist Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) said on Wednesday. The daily Ozgur Ulke said in its late edition that the pair, the first foreigners seized this year, had been freed in Pulumur, in Tunceli province, the same region where they were seized at a roadblock in broad daylight.

Five Somalians found frozen to death in Arctic

OSLO (R) — Five Somalians have been found frozen to death in Arctic Russia, the Norwegian border commissioner said on Wednesday. "The Russians have informed us that five Somalians froze to death in December 1992," Lars Finstad told Reuters. He did not know when the bodies were found. The five were discovered some 100 kilometres east of the Norwegian border, well into Russian territory near Titovka. Asylum-seekers and would-be immigrants have several times tried to cross the desolate Norwegian-Russian border. Norway is the only NATO-member which shared a border with Russia.

Israel wants halt to N. Korean missile sales to Syria, Iran

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israel will ask the United States to step up efforts to stop North Korean long-range missiles exports to Iran and Syria, officials told AFP on Wednesday. The foreign ministry deputy director, Eytan Ben Tzur, was scheduled to press the issue with senior U.S. official Robert Gallouci when the two meet on Thursday in Washington, the officials said. Mr. Gallouci resumes negotiations with North Korea next month in Geneva following agreement to normalise relations. Israel cut secret links with Pyongyang last August under pressure from Washington which was trying to force the hardline communists to allow international inspection of its nuclear facilities. In return the American administration pledged to work to put an end to missile sales. "The United States raised the (missile) issue informally during their last meeting with the North Koreans, who totally rejected it," Mr. Ben Tzur told Wednesday's Haaretz newspaper. A foreign ministry official indicated to the daily that Israel could resume contacts with Pyongyang to try to halt the missile sales. "If the United States does not honour its word, Israel will feel free to act as it seems fit," he said. Israel has no diplomatic relations with North Korea.

Israel gets 10 U.S. helicopters

TEL AVIV (AFP) — The Israeli air force received a shipment of 10 U.S. Black Hawk helicopters Tuesday, military officials said. The latest model manufactured by the firm Sikorsky, the Black Hawks are used for troop transport and are also equipped for ground attack. Their avionics will be upgraded in Israel. The helicopters were provided through a liquidation of U.S. military stocks. The Black Hawk is capable of transporting 12 fully equipped soldiers or 21 with light equipment. It is armed with two 7.62 millimeter guns and can carry 16 Hell Fire missiles.

Arafat orders 22 bodyguards jailed

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat ordered 22 of his bodyguards jailed Wednesday after they opened fire into the air to celebrate a wedding at a beachfront hotel. The guards were attending the wedding of a captain in the special force at the Palestine Hotel, with the guests including Mr. Arafat's sister-in-law and other relatives of senior officials, sources in Gaza said. Around 10 p.m. Tuesday they opened the windows looking out over the beach and let rip with an extended barrage of gunfire, said guests who attended the wedding. An angry Arafat issued the arrest order first thing Wednesday morning and the officers in charge of the corps began rounding up the men and taking them to the central jail. The length of the sentences was not immediately available.

Lebanon remembers Shi'ite imam

BEIRUT (R) — Shops, banks and businesses closed in most of Lebanon on Wednesday in memory of a revered Lebanese Shi'ite cleric who vanished in 1978 on an official visit to Libya. The shutdown was called by Nabil Berri, head of the mainstream Shi'ite Amal Movement and speaker of parliament. Amal is an offshoot of the Movement of the Deprived, the first Lebanese Shi'ite political movement which was founded by Imam Moussa Sadr, the vanished cleric, in the early 1970s. Amal and the Beirut government have accused Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi of responsibility for Moussa Sadr's disappearance. Libya says he vanished after leaving the country.

Convicted murderer hanged in Syria

DAMASCUS (R) — A 26-year-old Syrian convicted of murder and armed robbery was hanged in Homs, some 200 kilometres north of Damascus on Wednesday, security sources said. They said Tareq Bin Mohammad Al Refai was convicted of killing Faisal Al Zaim, a jeweller, in an armed robbery against Zaim's jewellery shop in the city on Feb. 4.

Israel bars Shaath from Ibrahimi mosque

HEBRON, Occupied West Bank (AFP) — Israeli troops prevented PLO Cooperation Minister Nabil Shaath from entering Hebron's massacre mosque on Wednesday amid a dispute over plans to separate Jews and Muslims at the shrine, correspondents said.

He failed to get past a military roadblock a day after Israeli MPs toured the Tomb of the Patriarchs which is undergoing alterations to try to prevent a repetition of the Feb. 25 slaughter of more than 29 Muslims by a Jewish settler.

Mr. Shaath told reporters that Palestinians would not accept Israeli plans to allot one area for Jews and another for Muslims.

"It's a purely Muslim mosque. There is nothing inside for the Jews," he said. "But anyone can visit outside Muslim prayer times."

Visiting Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa also criticised the Israeli plans.

"I support the Palestinian proposal. It's a wrong step that the Israelis have taken and we are going to discuss that," he said after praying at Al Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem.

Dr. Shaath toured Hebron hotspots, including Jewish strongholds, with Mayor Mustafa Natche after arriving unannounced from Gaza City.

His visit came a day after the Palestinian Authority announced it would protest to the U.N. Security Council over Israel's "carve-up" in

the mosque.

"Israel has turned the mosque into a ghetto," Dr. Shaath charged.

The Arab press has reported that the mosque would be reopened next week, which officials have denied, with most of the space given over to the Jews.

The complex has been closed since the massacre and the Israeli MPs said the building work had not been finished.

Israel has ordered alterations in line with inquiry recommendations to put in closed circuit cameras, separate entrances and prayer halls for Jews and Muslims.

Mayor Natche called Tuesday for Jews to be prevented from praying in the tomb which Jews were allowed to enter for the first time after Israel captured the West Bank in 1967.

According to the Bible God made a covenant in Hebron with Abraham as father of the chosen people. When he died he was buried alongside his wife in a cave there and later joined by their son Isaac and his son Jacob.

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The complex had been a mosque since the Arab conquest of the Holy Land in 638, apart from the Crusader period between 1100 and 1260.

Jews and Muslims believe the fortress-like tomb, first constructed by Herod the Great around 20 BC, is built over the cave.

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On the eve of the new year, we shall eventually achieve a kind of agreement to start launching a regional process."

Experts from Egypt, which has signed the treaty, will meet in a month with Israeli to continue talks on weapons of mass destruction.

Mr. Musa opposed statements by Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres both on issues, but he kept the door open and pledged further talks.

"I would say the opposite," Mr. Musa told reporters, after Mr. Peres said peace must first be established in the Middle East before Israel could contemplate signing the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

"We cannot achieve peace without arms control, which would contribute to the region with better security," answered Mr. Musa, the first Egyptian foreign minister to pay an official visit to Israel since a peace treaty was signed in 1979.

An Israeli official said Rabin thanked Musa for helping to reach the compromise.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres subsequently said he told Mr. Arafat that Israel had changed its position, and agreed to Ms. Bhutto's visit.

Mr. Peres said he had told Mr. Arafat that "we had no wish to damage the peace process or the Palestinian Authority. The problem was not Madame Bhutto but the procedure."

Ms. Bhutto had planned to visit Gaza during her Sept. 4-6 trip to Egypt to attend the U.N. World Population conference.

Israel authorities on Sunday stopped Pakistan's ambassador to Tunis, T.K. Khan, from crossing into Gaza to prepare for Ms. Bhutto's visit.

A foreign office spokesman here said in reference to Israel that: "It does not behove someone who is in illegal occupation of another people's land to display such arrogance."

"She declares, 'I don't want to see any Israeli. I don't recognise Israel,'" Mr. Rabin told a meeting of legislators from his Labour Party.

"She could have done what

Rabin threatens halt to authority transfer

(Continued from page 1)

Palestinians have killed 11 Israelis since the autonomy went into effect in the Gaza Strip and Jericho on May 18.

Many of the suspected assailants have escaped into the autonomous zones, but no charges have been filed. The Islamic Resistance Movement, or Hamas, claimed responsibility for most of the attacks.

Israelis were especially angered by the death of two construction workers last Friday which took place inside the country's borders.

That put even the staunchest peace advocates in the government like Mr. Sarid on the defensive.

"If terrorism continues without a feeling that something is being done to control it, it could also make matters explode," said Mr. Sarid, referring to the peace talks.

The violence added to a popularity squeeze already felt by Mr. Rabin's two-year-old cabinet. Last week a poll in the Yedioth Ahronot daily showed Mr. Rabin's approval rating had dropped to 45 per cent, only one point ahead of his main right-wing rival, Benjamin Netanyahu.

In a special parliament debate Wednesday on the vi-

lence, opposition Likud member Moshe Katsav charged that the continued moves to widen autonomy were "incomprehensible" given the PLO's failure to crack down on Hamas.

"Instead of arresting and bringing them to justice, they find shelter in the autonomy that the government of Israel gave the PLO," Mr. Katsav said.

Mr. Rabin, addressing Labour Party legislators, demanded a Palestinian crack down on Hamas.

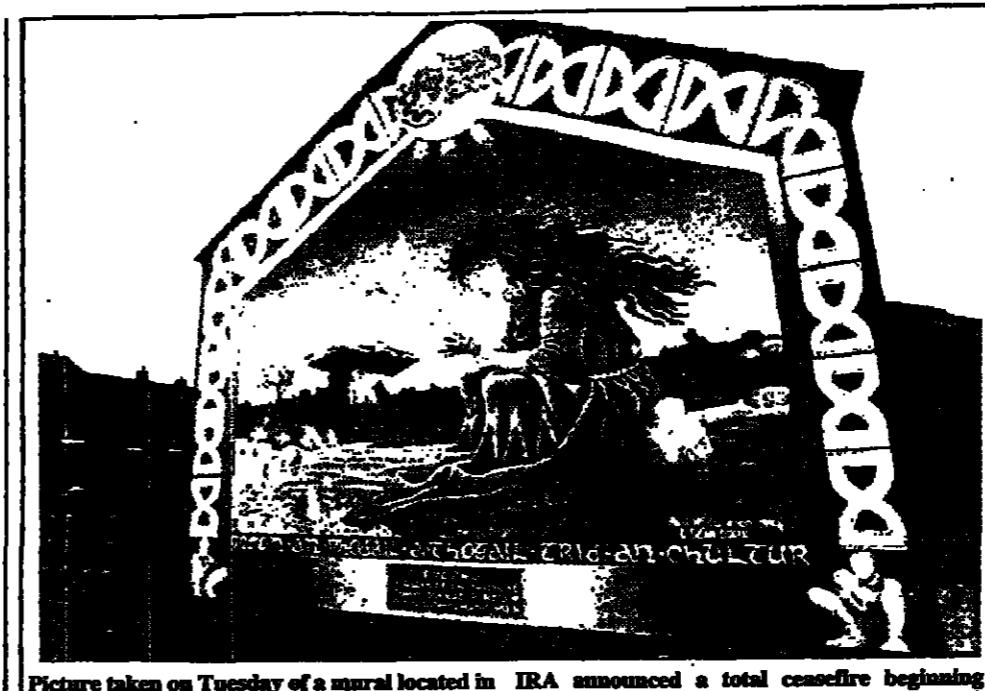
"We demand that (the Palestinians) assume their responsibilities," Mr. Rabin said.

Asked about the negotiations on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks the King said that these and other issues were discussed and "we presented our views," hoping that there will be progress on the other tracks.

"We are dealing with Jordanian issues as did the Egyptians and the Palestinians before, and we hope that all other parties would follow suit so that there will be a comprehensive peace," he said.

Israel this week transferred education authorities in the West Bank to the Palestinians, the first extension of Palestinian authority outside Gaza and Jericho.

The next round of talks in mid-September is supposed to focus on the timing for the other authorities to be transferred.



Picture taken on Tuesday of a mural located in IRA announced a total ceasefire beginning Wednesday at midnight. See page 1 story (AFP photo)

Egypt, Israel remain divided over nuclear weapons, peace with Syria

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Egyptian foreign Minister Amr Musa ended Wednesday a two-day visit here openly differing with Israel over nuclear arms control in the region and peace with Syria.

Mr. Musa opposed statements by Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres both on issues, but he kept the door open and pledged further talks.

"I would say the opposite," Mr. Musa told reporters, after Mr. Peres said peace must first be established in the Middle East before Israel could contemplate signing the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

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Experts from Egypt, which has signed the treaty, will meet in a month with Israeli to continue talks on weapons of mass destruction.

In multilateral arms control talks, Egypt has pressed Israel to join the treaty in the 1995 renewal session and open its nuclear facilities to international inspection.

Foreign reports say Israel has developed nuclear arms, but the government's official position is that "Israel will not be the first to introduce nuclear arms to the Middle East."

On conditions for peace with Syria, Mr. Peres reiterated Israel's stand that Damascus must commit itself to total peace with open borders before expecting Israel to negotiate a withdrawal from the Golan Heights.

He told reporters he favoured both open and secret talks with Syria.

"The Syrians did not agree, neither to the first nor to the second (talks)," he said.

Mr. Musa has called for "all for all," and urged Israel to withdraw fully from the Golan Heights in return for

However, Mr. Musa went

protest his innocence, was being returned to his home in the northern town of Lille.

Interior Minister Charles Pasqua said the expulsions were intended as a message to Muslim militants in France to refrain from political activity.

It said the six others would remain under surveillance "according to the needs of public order."

The ministry did not say who stayed and who went, leaving even the detainees' lawyers guessing where their clients were.

Officials said moderate Paris imam (preacher) Larbi Kechat was among those who stayed in France. Lawyers said shopkeeper Said Magri, who was on a hunger strike to

protest his innocence, was being returned to his home in the northern town of Lille.

Interior Minister Charles Pasqua said the expulsions were intended as a message to Muslim militants in France to refrain from political activity.

"I hope this will serve as a lesson for those who do not want to respect the laws of the republic and hospitality."

The Algerians were held under heavy guard to the bleak Folembay army camp in the village of Folembay north-east of Paris pending their trial.

The Algerians had been held for up to nearly a month at a disputed army camp in the village of Folembay north-east of Paris pending their trial.

Asked about the negotiations on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks the King said that these and other issues were discussed and "we presented our views," hoping that there will be progress on the other tracks.

"We are dealing with Jordanian issues as did the Egyptians and the Palestinians before, and we hope that all other parties would follow suit so that there will be a comprehensive peace," he said.

Asked whether he expected a meeting soon with President Hafez Assad of Syria, the King said "We always meet and we have been all the time in constant contact over matters regarding

the future. I believe that President Assad is informed of our intentions and our moves, and I said at our last meeting that he might have a longer time frame in mind than others, but we have to move and he is moving too."

He added: "Hopefully we will meet shortly because we cherish strong brotherly relations with the Palestinian people.

"In view of the changes in the region I hope to see people feel that we are at the threshold of a new era, entirely different from that of the past," he added.

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The French defence minister expressed full understanding of the Jordanian position and appreciation, for the King's efforts, JTV reported.

Before meeting with the president, the King met French Prime Minister

COLUMN 8

Man charged with threatening to kill Clinton

FALMOUTH, Massachusetts (AFP) — A construction worker was charged with threatening to kill President Bill Clinton after he told a ticket agent he was travelling to Martha's Vineyard to carry out the assassination, police said. Glenn Armstrong, 26, of Uxbridge, Massachusetts, was taken into custody Monday at a ferry terminal that offers passenger service to the island where Mr. Clinton and family are vacationing. Police said he told a ticket agent he needed to kill the president. The self-employed worker was charged with threatening to commit murder, said Secret Service agent Mike Johnston who refused to say whether Mr. Armstrong was armed. White House spokeswoman Dee